



Suffolk Horse Watch Bulletin

Anyone who is interested in joining or would like more information can log onto the Suffolk Police website: <http://www.suffolk.police.uk/aboutus/ourservices/joinawatchscheme/horsewatch.aspx>
Or contact Julie Dennis, Community Safety Unit on 01473 613888 ext 5986
e-mail horsewatch@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

If you have any information on the crimes detailed in this bulletin, please contact Suffolk Police on 101 (or 01473 613500 if you are calling from outside East Anglia). If you would prefer to pass on information anonymously call Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111

Catalytic convertor thefts

Police are reminding drivers to take simple measures to protect their catalytic converters following a spate of thefts from vehicles across the county. **4x4's are particularly vulnerable due to their height which allows easy access to the underside of the vehicle.**

Officers are urging motorists to, where possible, take extra precautions such as parking vehicles in secure garages, getting the catalytic converter security marked, securing the converter with a clamp and anti-temper alarm.

If you have any information relating to these incidents, please call Suffolk Police on 101.

Officers are reminding drivers to take the extra precautions, to be vigilant and to report any suspicious activity.

If you think that a crime is in progress always call the police on **999**, in non-emergency situations dial **101** or Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**.

Please note: other offences may have occurred during this period, however details cannot be disclosed as the victim has stated they object to publicity..

Theft of electric fencing – Wortham (IP22)

Crime Ref: ST/14/1687

Overnight on 16/17 June electric fence posts, energiser, battery and a plastic barrel were stolen from a field

Theft of mobile phone from a car – Thrandeston (IP21)

Crime Ref: ST/14/1705

A mobile phone was stolen from a vehicle left unattended whilst the owner attended their horses on 19 June

Theft of electric fencing energiser and battery – Long Melford (CO10)

Crime Ref: SU/14/1185

Between 7/15 June electric fence energiser and battery were stolen from a field

Theft of equestrian equipment – Worlingham (NR34)

Crime Ref: BE/14/784

Overnight on 29/30 June two headcollars, car batteries and a wheelbarrow were stolen from a field



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Theft of equestrian equipment – Kedington (CB9)

Crime Ref: HH/14/1310

Between 29/30 June a plastic manure skip and rake were stolen from a stable yard

Theft of fencing battery – Sutton (IP12)

Crime Ref: WO/14/1005

Between 2/4 July fence battery stolen from grazing land in large forested area

Theft of horse trailer – Exning (CB8)

Crime Ref: NE/14/1134

Between 8.30pm and 11pm on 8 July a horse trailer was stolen from a yard in Exning.

The trailer, described as black and silver older style wood and aluminium double axle Lfor Williams 505R trailer was stolen after a clamp was forced from one of the wheels.

Over the past week Suffolk Police have received reports of suspicious activity around rural establishments and fields in the IP10 and IP11 area. Discussions on internet forums and social media are speculating that horses are being targeted for theft.

Farm and horse owners should take this opportunity to review the security of their stable yards and paddocks. Anyone who observes suspicious activity around horses should note down as much detail as possible and report it to the police on 101. Time, date, vehicle registration details and descriptions of any persons involved are particularly helpful. Number plates of vehicles may be cloned, so a full description of the vehicle involved should be taken.

Suffolk Horse Watch gives the following advice to protect your horse:

- Freeze marking is well known and proven as the most effective theft deterrent. The reason is because it is visible – it will deter thieves, but on the rare occasions when freeze marked horses go missing, it provides an excellent tracing facility, with no need for any expensive equipment to read the marks.
- Change your routine regularly and visit your horse at irregular times.
- Check perimeter fencing daily to ensure it has not been tampered with.
- Gates are often the weakest points in the perimeter and, as such, need careful consideration (field gates themselves are valuable and often stolen). Metal gates tend to be more secure. Gateposts should be securely cemented into the ground. Gate hinges need to have the tops burred over or welded to prevent the gate being lifted off. The gate should be kept padlocked at all times. A good heavy-duty chain (motorcycle security chains can be useful) and the best quality close-shackled padlocks (to resist bolt croppers) that you can afford need to be used.
- Ask residents of neighbouring properties to look out and report any vehicles / people loitering or taking undue interest in your paddock or yard.
- DO NOT be tempted to lock your horse in a stable.
 - If someone intends to steal your horse it makes it all that much easier, with the horse being in an enclosed area.
 - It puts your horse at risk in the event of a medical or fire emergency.
- Report to the police anything out of the ordinary.