



June 2023

Welcome to your Rutland police e-newsletter. Here you will find all of the latest news from a Rutland policing perspective and crime prevention advice to help keep yourself safe.

## Look after your shed

This is the time of year when we are in our gardens, busy gardening having barbecues and playing games. Most items used for these activities are stored in a shed. Many people don't secure their shed or garage in the same way they do their homes - often using an easy-to-break lock or padlock to protect valuable contents such as a car, bike or lawnmower.

An opportunistic burglar will try a shed or garage first because they can find the tools they need to break into the main house.

The top five most common items stolen from sheds are:

Bikes

Mowers

Sports equipment

Power tools

Garden tools

Check that your insurance covers the contents of your shed or outbuildings from theft. Take a look at your shed and consider how you would break in. It's worth having a good padlock on the door with no exposed screws. Pay attention to hinges, as these are sometimes easily removable. If you have windows then these could be vulnerable unless they're secured with wire mesh or grills. And keep it locked at all times. Consider a battery-operated shed alarm. They look low key but they respond to movement or door contact with an extremely loud siren. Don't give them the opportunity or the tools to commit a crime. Lock everything away securely. Tools can be locked inside a locker or box or



secured with a chain. It's always worth draping an old sheet or blanket over the top of mowers or bikes to keep them covered from view.

Although it might sound like stating the obvious, never leave your garage or shed door unlocked if you're not around.

Property marking your items is advisable and some tools can be painted with your name or postcode. Forensic marking is also an option.



June 2023

## Out and about with our officers and PCSO's

Officers were recently at the Rutland show – it was a great day with people coming to chat to the officers, finding out about what they do. Some were even considering joining the police, as we are still recruiting new officers.



Officers from the Rutland South beat (PC Pete Icke and PCSO Andy Wylie) were recently out in Ketton and Edith Weston enforcing the speed limit. In Ketton the fastest vehicle was registered at 32 mph. In Edith Weston 2 vehicles were recorded at 37 mph, 1 at 38 mph and 1 at 43 mph. These were dealt with appropriately.

PC Rebecca Angel and PCSO Lauren Lyall recently attended Oakham c of E school fete. Some of the children were keen to explore the cage in the police van, we don't think they realised how small the space was and they got out pretty quickly. Rebecca and Lauren had a great time interacting with the youngsters. If you see us at any events in the summer please stop and chat with us.



## You can help us

And finally

Across the force we have seen a rise in “pocket dial” 999 calls following android phone changes...you can help.

We've experienced a 255 increase in calls of this nature in the last 2 weeks. This means our call takers are taking hundreds of extra calls per day. Each 999 call is taken seriously, meaning that if nobody responds we work to trace the call, get in touch and ensure the caller is ok. You can help reducing demand by ensuring your mobile phone (particularly Samsung mobiles) have the latest updates.



**The next edition will be out soon!**