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***Royston Rural Watch, February 2019***

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***Our Non - Emergency Number 101***

**On the Beat** –

Apologies for the lack of newsletter last month. We are looking to revamp the newsletter and the original format had been sent our communications department for review. The team are waiting for a new template to be sent from this department for us to use for the foreseeable future.

Thirty-two new police officers join Hertfordshire Constabulary

•Thirty-two police officers join Hertfordshire Constabulary

•Graduation Ceremony held on Friday

•We’ll be recruiting police officers from February 1

Thirty-two police officers were welcomed into Hertfordshire Constabulary during their graduation ceremony last week (Friday, January 18).

Having completed a 16 week training course, they will now be starting their first shifts at their local stations across the county, putting into practice all they have learned.

The training included a mixture of classroom based and practical sessions, covering a vast range of topics including law and powers, personal safety and dealing with volatile situations, first aid and safeguarding vulnerable victims.

During the ceremony, which took place at Longfield Training Development Centre in Stevenage, the new recruits paraded in front of Chief Constable Charlie Hall, Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner Stuart Nagler, their soon to be Chief Inspectors and family and friends.

Chief Constable for Hertfordshire, Charlie Hall said: “We’ve been rigorously recruiting police officers over the past eighteen months and are now seeing the benefits of this recruitment drive with numbers of officers on duty increasing noticeably.“These officers have gone through an exacting recruitment process and spent the last few months in intensive training to ensure they are fully equipped to deal with life on the front line.

“It’s a proud moment for them to be standing in front of their family and friends in full uniform, and it gives me great pleasure to formally welcome them to Hertfordshire Constabulary.”

Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner Stuart Nagler said: “These officers will be at the core of policing in the county, joining the intervention teams who respond to emergency incidents and neighbourhood policing teams who respond to the needs of local communities. Together with the Chief Constable, we have made it a priority to not only protect these frontline teams, but to increase officer numbers. I welcome them to Hertfordshire Constabulary and wish them the very best in their career.”

Hertfordshire Constabulary will be recruiting police officers from 1st until 28th February. During this time you can register your interest or submit your application at New windowwww.hertspolicecareers.co.uk.

Have you considered whether representing your community as a police officer is for you? The Constabulary offers career progression, personal development and a welcoming, supportive workplace to people with different life experiences and backgrounds.

An information evening is being held on Monday, February 4. The evening is designed to give an insight into policing our community, your career development and what it takes to put on the uniform. You’ll also hear from serving police officers. For details of the event and to book your place, please email positiveaction@herts.pnn.police.uk.

Did you see rogue traders in the Royston Area?

•Rogue traders targeted an elderly woman in Royston.

•They told her she needed to pay £5,000 for repairs to her roof.

•The victim realised the men were trying to scam her and the police were called.

•Anyone with information is asked to contact PC Goodwin as soon as possible.

Officers investigating an incident where rogue traders targeted an elderly woman in Royston are appealing for information and witnesses.

Between midday and 2pm on Saturday (January 26) two men went to the woman’s home in the Bedlam Avenue area claiming that their company had previously carried out work there. They said they needed to check the roof.

The offenders, who had a ladder with them, ‘checked’ the roof and threw down three tiles claiming they were damaged. They said it would cost £5,000 to carry out the repairs.

They asked the victim - aged in her 70s - to go to her bank and get the cash so that they could start the work.

PC Karen Goodwin, who is investigating, said: “Thankfully the woman realised this was a scam and drove to her bank where she alerted staff and the police we called.

“Officers went to the woman’s address but the offenders had already left.

“The offenders are described as two white men, who are aged in their 20s, and had a ladder with them. We believe that a dark coloured car parked in Thurnall Avenue and possibly a van that was in the area around the time of the offence could be linked to the offenders.

“I’m appealing for anyone who saw two men with a ladder in the area around the time stated to get in touch as you may be able to assist our investigation.”

Anyone with information is asked to contact PC Goodwin by emailing, calling the non-emergency number 101, quoting crime reference 41/8588/19 or report information online.

Alternatively, you can stay 100% anonymous by contacting the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or via their New windowuntraceable online form

Appeal following burglary at village shop

•A village shop was burgled in the early hours of Saturday, January 19.

•Thousands of pounds worth of cigarettes, alcohol and chocolates were stolen.

•The offenders are described as two men, around 5ft 10in tall and dressed in all black.

•They are believed to have left in a silver coloured Mondeo or similar shaped vehicle.

•Anyone with information is asked to contact police.

Officers are appealing for information and witnesses following a commercial burglary in Ashwell.

At 2.47am on Saturday, January 19, the Ashwell Village Store in High Street was broken into.

The offenders forced open the front shutters and stole thousands of pounds worth of cigarettes, alcohol and chocolates. They put the items into a blue bin liner.

The offenders are described as two men who are around 5ft 10in tall and were dressed in all black. It is believed they made off in a silver coloured Mondeo or a similar shaped vehicle.

Anyone who saw the offenders or a vehicle matching the description in the area around the time of the burglary is asked to contact PC Karen Goodwin by emailing, calling the non-emergency number 101, quoting crime reference 41/6021/19 or report information online.

Alternatively, you can stay 100 per cent anonymous by contacting the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or via their New window untraceable online form.

**Local Crime Information**

**G4E - Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham and Caldecote**

Between 13th and 31st January a recycling business was targeted in Newnham. The offenders have gained entry by the front fire door, they have then stolen a quantity of cables and metals. The offender made off in an unknown direction. 41/10079/19

Between 28th December and 8th January, five vehicles were targeted in Ashwell and Bygrave. The offender went from car to car through the villages checking for unlocked cars. Cars that would open had items removed, from small change to mobile phones. CCTV footage showed a young male covering his face with a hood and snood and dark clothing.

On 19th January between 2.42am and 2.55am Ashwell Stores was burgled. The offenders have jemmied up the roller shutter and have smashed through the front door. Once inside the offenders stole cash, cigarettes, alcohol and chocolates. The offenders made off towards Gardiners Lane where they entered a silver saloon type vehicle possibly a Ford Mondeo. 41/6021/19

Between 23rd and 25th January there was an attempted burglary in High Street, Ashwell. The offenders have entered the rear garden of the property and used an unknown implement trying to jemmy the bi – fold doors. The offenders then snapped the lock to the patio door but this was also unsuccessful and they made off over the garden wall. 41/8389/19

**G4D – Barley, Barkway, Reed, Therfield, Kelshall and Nuthampstead**

On 6th January two vehicles drove onto farmland in Therfield damaging crops, the vehicles have left the field at the same point of entry and made off direction unknown. 41/1635/19

Between 12th and 14th on Cambridge Road, Barkway a building site was broken into. Jemmy type tool was used to break into a site office. The offenders stole a defibrillator and a small tool kit. Other outbuildings on site jwere targeted but nothing else stolen. 41/4326/19

Overnight 17th to 18th January informant awoke to find his driver side window of his vehicle had been smashed. Nothing removed from inside the vehicle. The vehicle was parked in Church End, Barley 41/5711/19

On 17th January at 10.22pm two males have approached a coach that was parked in High Street, Barley. The offender has located the emergency door entry lever and gained entry to the coach. Once on board the offender stole a hammer and made off towards Church End. 41/6347/19

Between 18th and 21st January a burglary occurred in a warehouse situated in a rural location in Sandon. The offenders climbed on the roof and smashed a sky light to gain entry. Once inside the offenders stole high value goods and forced a hole into the side of the warehouse to make their escape. 41/6568/19

Between 18th and 20th January an electronic Speed awareness sign was smashed using an unknown implement, the sign was situated in London Road, Barley. 41/7424/19

Between 6.50am to 8pm on 28th January number plates were stolen from a vehicle parked in Picknage Road, Barley. The number plates were used to commit crime in Cambridgeshire. 41/9216/19

**G3C - Sandon, Wallington, Rushden, Clothall and Weston**

Overnight on 25th January to the 26th a barn was targeted in the garden of a property in Hitchin Road, Weston. The offenders used a crow bar to open door and stole a lawn mower to the value of £300. 41/8420/19

On the night of 26th January a shed was broken into at a property in Hitchin Road, Weston. Ceramic crockery that was being stored in the shed were stolen. An attempt was made on a second shed at the property but were unsuccessful. 41/8461/19

Between 21st and 25th of January a garage was targeted in Fore Street, Weston. Offenders gained access by a back door of the garage. A band saw was stolen from within. 41/9067/19

28th January at approx. 6pm offenders attempted to break into a house in Damask Green Road, Weston. The owners of the property had just returned home to hear a bang at the rear patio door, the owner went to the door that was cracked. The offender made off across the field towards the cricket club. Entry was not gained to the property. 41/9268/19

**Your local Neighbourhood Police Teams website**

<http://snt.herts.police.uk/Teams.aspx?TeamID=G01>

Useful Links

<http://www.herts.police.uk/>

<http://www.doglost.co.uk/>

<http://www.stolenhorseregister.com/>

**Royston Rural Neighbourhood Team Tel – 01438 757935**