

Cuckoo Oak and Ironbridge Newsletter - 18 March 2019

Community Messages

22/03/19 - PCC strengthens wildlife crime team

As part of Commissioner John Campion's commitment to supporting rural communities, funding has been allocated for the training of 17 additional Wildlife Crime Officers.

These individuals are regular officers that have completed specialist training that allows them to provide guidance and support around investigating wildlife offences. The number of wildlife officers, based around West Mercia, has now been brought up to 30.



Wildlife crime describes offences that often involve cruelty and the unlawful killing of wild mammals and birds and the destruction of plant life. This can include crimes such as: hare coursing; deer poaching; hunting with dogs; and badger persecution. It can also include the buying or selling of endangered species from around the world - such as ivory.

However, this crime doesn't just affect wildlife, perpetrators can often be involved in other associated crimes such as ASB, theft, criminal damage and, in some case, wildlife crime has shown to be a financial avenue for supporting criminal gangs.

Funding from the Commissioner has also bought forensic kits, which allows the officers to gather evidence there and then without relying on another team to come out.

Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion said: "These additional wildlife officers are an excellent step forward in giving communities reassurance that we are listening to their concerns. By giving police officers this specialist training, to investigate these crimes, will help in reducing the number of people and animals being affected."

Superintendent Sue Thomas said: "It's great to have a number of officers trained in wildlife matters who can then support and advise the wider workforce to ensure that we are able to respond to wildlife matters in an appropriate way.

"The training is essential to raise awareness and give officers the confidence to address and investigate wildlife crimes."

The enforcement of wildlife crime often involves and requires partnership with other agencies outside the police, including governmental and non-governmental bodies.

*** End of message***.

<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/58597/PCC-strengthens-wildlife-crime-team>

21/03/19 - CRIMINAL DAMAGE AT GOLF COURSE HOTEL

At approximately 21:50 on the 20th March 2019 a window was smashed at the side of the Great Hay Golf Club and Hotel in Sutton heights, Telford. A large blunt object was used to smash the restaurant window and then the offenders ran off from the scene. Offenders believe to be 2 to 3 young males.

If you saw or have heard anything please contact the Police on 101 quoting the above log reference number.

Remain vigilant around your area and report suspicious persons, vehicles or activity to the Police on 101. Information can also be given anonymously to the Independent Charity, Crimestoppers, by calling 0800 555 111 or by visiting their website: www.crimestoppers-uk.org

<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/58569/CRIMINAL-DAMAGE-AT-GOLF-COURSE-HOTEL>

18/03/19 - West Mercia Neighbourhood Watch Annual General Meeting, 2019 - Saturday 11th May, 9:30am to 12:30pm

The below message is circulated on behalf of the West Mercia Neighbourhood Watch Executive Committee.



West Mercia Neighbourhood Watch Annual General Meeting 2019 will be held on Saturday 11th May 9:30am to 12:30pm (arrive from 09:00) at Hindlip Hall, Hindlip, Worcester, WR3 8SP



Neighbourhood Watch registered scheme members are invited to apply for tickets to our 2019 AGM. Hear about how we support scheme coordinators, members and work with our police partners. We thank West Mercia Police for kindly agreeing to host this event and show us two specialist police teams in action.

Agenda:

- AGM presentations and business
- Police demonstrations

- o Police Dog Handlers
- o Firearms
- o Taser

There will be huge demand for tickets; for safety reasons ticket numbers are limited and all attendees must be over 18 years of age. The event is open only to Neighbourhood Watch Members who have registered on the [www.ourwatch.org.uk website](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk). If you are not yet a registered member of Neighbourhood Watch, please contact membership@westmercianw.org.uk, and we will advise you how to register.

Apply for your ticket here (click on this link) : [Ticket application](#)

Some demonstrations will be outside, so warm clothing and suitable shoes will be required. There is a limited number of disabled parking spaces which will need to be pre-booked.

Issued by West Mercia Neighbourhood Watch Executive Committee. **Any enquiries to enquiries@westmercianw.org.uk**

***End of message ***

<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/58429/West-Mercia-Neighbourhood-Watch-Annual-General-Meeting-2019---Saturday-11th-May930am-to-1230pm>

Contact Details

Malinsgate Police Station
Malinsgate
Telford
TF3 4HW
101 (In an emergency always call 999)

