

Contact Country Watch by emailing countrywatch@hampshire.pnn.police.uk or by visiting www.hampshire.police.uk/internet/rural

Did you know you could volunteer with Hampshire Constabulary?

We are recruiting police support volunteers to work alongside the Country Watch team to combat rural crime and make a difference to their community. To find out more about volunteering visit www.hampshire.police.uk

Your local Countrywatch officers and the areas they cover

Northern Area	Eastern Area	Western Area
Sergeant Stuart Tripp	Havant and Waterlooville District:	New Forest and Southern Test Valley Districts:
Basingstoke and Andover Districts:	Sergeant Gavin Parkes	Sergeant Louise Hubble
PC Lee Coleshill	PCSO Rebecca Veal	PC Scott Graham
PC Brian Pittman	Isle of Wight West:	PCSO Alan McCaffery
PCSO Melissa Rowell	Sergeant Mark Lyth	
Winchester and East Hampshire Districts:	PCSO Justin Keefe	
PC Jon Radcliffe	PCSO Catherine Quinn	
PC Elaine Skittlethorpe	Isle of Wight East:	
PC Lynn Owen	Sergeant Richard Stapleton	
PCSO Tria Gibbs	PCSO Karen Allen	
Hart District:	PC Peter Baggott (Forensics)	
PC Mick Ames		

Hampshire Constabulary can also be found at the following social networking sites:

 @hantspolice	 Find us on Facebook Hampshire Constabulary	 Broadcast Yourself™ OfficialHantsPolice
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COUNTRY WATCH *Newsletter*

Summer 2011



Hampshire and the Isle of Wight are predominantly rural counties. The rural geography of this area presents unique policing challenges for Hampshire Constabulary.

Preventing and detecting crime is often harder due to the fact that there may be fewer witnesses to criminal activity and there are greater opportunities for criminals to target isolated properties and businesses. Rural Safer Neighbourhood teams have been working hard in rural towns and villages to identify priorities and solve community problems. Hampshire Constabulary however, has recognised that more can be done to enhance service delivery in rural areas.

For this reason Country Watch has been expanded and is now being established across the three geographical policing areas of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Country Watch officers will be working closely with Safer Neighbourhood teams to identify and disrupt through proactive operations those intent on committing offences in our rural areas.



I am genuinely excited with this development and I look forward to working with my colleagues on Country Watch.



Call Hampshire Constabulary Country Watch on **101**. In an emergency call **999**

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We have been taking a really close look at the policing service we provide to rural areas, listening to rural communities, relevant partner organisations as well as our own staff. We have also been very mindful of modern technology that can help our rural policing service.

We have listened to concerns about police understanding and effectiveness in tackling rural crime. There were many things we need to work on but also some aspects of our work that received praise such as Country Watch schemes, text alert systems and some rural partnerships. We do know however, that the provision of these services could be more consistent and cohesive across all areas of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.



With the enthusiasm and commitment of senior officers and those who work directly in rural communities, we know we can make improvements that will have a very positive impact on tackling rural crime.

Some of the improvements we are making include:

- Specialist Country Watch officers will cover all rural areas of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, working closely with Safer Neighbourhoods teams
- An improved approach to two way communications on rural policing matters.
- Ensuring control room and enquiry centre staff know how to deal with the rural crime and concerns you call about and understand the significance and impact of issues such as poaching and agricultural theft.
- All our Country Watch officers will get mobile technology keeping them out of the station and out in the rural community
- We will be establishing partnerships with other organisations working to tackle rural crime.

- We will be asking you to set priorities for us.
- We will be using all the tools available to us to improve intelligence gathering and analysis of rural crime to ensure a really robust, proactive, targeted and effective response to rural crime problems.
- We will be delivering training and awareness of rural issues for a wide variety of staff in our organisation.



The changes we make to improve our service are important but we know we must have the support of rural communities to truly be a formidable opposition to those who want to commit crime in rural areas. Please support us in the following ways:

- Report crime and suspicious activity.
- Join your local Country Watch scheme
- Consider Volunteering or becoming a special constable
- If you are an employer consider letting your staff volunteer or become a special constable through the employer supported policing scheme.