



# Kent Police

## Weekly Rural Policing Update

Suspicious persons were seen in Eastling, Faversham at 4am. One person was seen trying car door handles. They were disturbed by the next door neighbour and left in the vehicle that they arrived in. Details of the car were given to the police and follow up action is being taken.

Issues on the Chevening Estate involving suspected poaching. On two occasions in the last month there have been reports with people trespassing or firing catapults at birds. On both occasions witnesses have been able to get vehicle details and despite insufficient evidence to prosecute anyone, both registered owners of the vehicles have been personally visited and warned about the consequences of being on their land.

Op Salmon/Innovate regarding the hare coursing/poaching on the North Downs. Information was received from an source in Otterden regarding a suspicious vehicle. A search was completed and the vehicle was located on Ringlestone Road, Hollingbourne. In the rear of the vehicle were two dead hares and other poaching equipment. These have been seized and both occupants interviewed and reported for summons. The informant is over the moon and will be feeding this back to the other farmers/game keepers.

Over the past week there have been many high profile patrols in the rural environment. There has been an increase in information being passed to the police which has resulted in a more targeted response to the reports.

A report of a badger sett being destroyed near to the M2 motorway is being investigated. The Rural Liaison Team (RLT) have many contacts with other enforcement agencies. Quite often a report of wildlife crime is complex and links in with other offences being committed. A multi-agency approach is often more effective in dealing with this type of crime.