

## Operation Nonagon – 23/7/14 - Results/Activities.

Over 70 Police Officers, 8 PCSO's & 8 KCC Wardens participated in Op Nonagon 0800-2400 to mark the launch of The Rural Task Force.

### SWALE

Swale Local District Policing Team, & Community Policing Team conducted High Visibility Patrolling of the rural areas of Swale, stop & searching 3 people, in suspicious circumstances in Faversham. This visible presence & Policing activity helps reassure local rural communities, whilst preventing & detecting crime. The teams then executed a search warrant at a Faversham address and seized 3 items, a petrol lawnmower, petrol strimmer and petrol chainsaw. No one was present at the time but later a male was arrested and charged with handling stolen goods. Pictures of seized item below.

Officers from Tactical Operations, assisted Swale District in by executing a Search Warrant at a farm, near Faversham. An extensive search of the property and land was carried out and intelligence gained.

2 teams of Special Constables from North Division, conducted High Visibility Patrols throughout the day in Swale Rural areas. Areas covered - Lynsted, Kingsdown, Doddington, Tory Hill, Rodmersham, Tonge, Stockbury, Hartlip, Upchurch, Lower Halstow, Bobbing, Iwade and the Isle of Sheppey all visited and residents spoken to.

Swale PCSO's conducted High Visibility patrols through-out the evening, in the following rural areas; Isle of Sheppey, Doddington, Upchurch, Newnham, Newington, Torry Hill, Lower Halstow, Milstead, Iwade, Bredgar, Tunstall, Borden, Stockbury, Painters Forstall, and Eastling.



## **ASHFORD**

Ashford Community Policing Team worked proactively throughout Ashford rural areas from 1500 – 0400. The team conducted Bail checks on known offenders to ensure their curfew compliance.

At 23.33 officers attended a burglary in progress at The John Wesley Primary School, Ashford. 3 males were located at the scene, arrested and conveyed to Canterbury Custody where all three were later charged with the offence of burglary.

GLT also proactively engaged in Op Nonagon - targeting rural crime in the Ashford and Sittingbourne area. Upon the team being deployed, three officers attended a pedestrian vs car RTC and PC AZIZI administered essential and necessary first aid to the pedestrian who suffered a significant leg injury and was air lifted to hospital. Shortly after coming away from the location a vehicle failed to stop for Police on the A28. After a short distance the vehicle crashed and the driver made off on foot. Following an area search the driver was located and arrested for dis-qualified driving, failing to stop, dangerous driving and other driving offences. A search of the vehicle revealed a large quantity of stolen cable. The male was further arrested for theft.

Ashford PCSO's distributed over 100 Crime prevention leaflets around the Molash, Chilham and Challock areas. Property marking labels were distributed & well received. KCC Wardens also patrolled with PCSO's in rural wards. Through prolonged engagement with these rural communities valuable intelligence has been gained.

Rural areas patrolled were The Romney Marsh, Rolvenden, Woodchurch, Great Chart Hothfield, Pluckley, Bethersden, Smarden, Biddenden Appledore and Tenterden.



## **Arrests and drugs seizures as part of rural day of action Op Nonagon 12**

Kent Police officers executed a series of warrants as part of their ongoing work to crackdown on rural crime across the county.

The latest Operation Nonagon took place on 5 June and saw the Rural Partnership Team working alongside local officers from Ashford, Maidstone, Swale and Tonbridge and Malling and the Special Constabulary.

Inspector Andrew Judd from the Ashford Neighbourhood Policing Team said: 'This was just the latest in a series of days of action conducted between the four districts, known as Operation Nonagon. We know that burglary, vehicle crime, and fuel theft are the most common types of crime experienced in rural areas and we are committed to disrupting criminal activity and catching those responsible.'

The day of action resulted in a 35 year-old man being taken into custody after a warrant was executed at Jack Dunbar Place, Ashford. The man was arrested for possessing drugs with intent to supply drugs after officers found 60 grams of a white powder, plus a large quantity of what appeared to be herbal cannabis, and other paraphernalia. The man has been bailed until 5 September while officers continue their enquiries.

In Tonge a father and son were arrested after a warrant was carried out at a farm in Church Road, where 59 plants, believed to be cannabis plants, were found and seized. The two males were charged with cannabis production and will appear at Maidstone Magistrates Court on 26 June.

A separate warrant was carried out at a property in Agate Court where plants believed to be cannabis were found in a bedroom.

And in Willow Avenue, Faversham, a 38 year-old man was arrested on suspicion of cultivation of cannabis and was bailed until 4 August.

Elsewhere, officers carried out additional patrols and intelligence checks in Golden Green, Wrotham and Borough Green in West Kent and in Raspberry Hill Lane and Old Ferry Road areas of Iwade. Visits were made to local farms where landowners were given crime prevention advice.

Tactical roadside checks on around 60 vehicles in East Farleigh, Staplehurst High Street and on the A20 at Harrietsham resulted in eight traffic offence reports for offences such as speeding, no MOT and not wearing a seatbelt.

One driver was given a warning to rectify a vehicle fault, and 11 more were given words of advice.

Similarly in Smarden, three HGV drivers were issued with fixed penalty tickets for driving vehicles which exceeded the traffic weight limit for the village centre. Extra officers, together with Kent County Council community wardens, were also deployed to patrol local villages on the day.

Insp Judd added: 'This operation involved more than 50 officers and we will be conducting more days of action soon. In the meantime local officers will continue to patrol rural areas as part of their daily business, with every ward in the county having a named PCSO. If you see anything suspicious in your area call us on 101, or use 999 if a crime is in progress.'

For more on what Kent Police is doing to curb rural crime, click [www.kent.police.uk/rural](http://www.kent.police.uk/rural) and follow @kentpolicerural on Twitter.

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