



October 2011

# Wrea Green and Westby Neighbourhood Watch Update



PC Gary Cross

### Your Top Priorities

You've told us your top problems for us to tackle are:

- Dogs worrying live stock at Great Plumpton
- Vehicles parking on the pavement in Wrea Green
- Perceived speeding on roads leading into Wrea Green



PCSO Trevor Sterling

### Last months you said dogs were worrying live stock at Great Plumpton...

The dog warden and the team have increased patrols in the area. A dog which was owned by a resident in Great Plumpton has been confiscated and re-homed. Reports had reduced over the month but due to a recent sighting will remain a priority.

**Anti Social Behaviour in the village...** Enquiries made over several days found 6 local youths to be responsible for the ASB. All youths have been visited at home in the presence of their



Sergeant Niamh O'donoghue

parents and given first and final warning.

### Speeding issues on Ribby Road and Station Road...

Both the road policing unit and PC Cross have undertaken speed enforcement in the area. PC Cross has been on Bryning Lane and numerous vehicles stopped for speed estimation. Those spoken to the vast majority were residents. It was pointed out to them that if local residents who are complaining about speeding were themselves then speeding it defeats the issue. 1 ticket issued on Station Road for non wearing of seatbelt as part of Operation Pathway.

### Public consultation — all welcome

Date	Time	Location
7th November PACT	19.30hrs	Wrea Green Institute, Station Road

### Alcohol seized from teens in anti-social behaviour crack down

POLICE seized nearly 100 bottles and 30 cans of beer and alcopops from children during a summer crack down on booze-fuelled anti-social behaviour.

Police officers and PCSOs from the Kirkham and Wesham neighbourhood police teams carried out extra patrols in local parks over the summer months. This followed complaints from residents that young people were congregating in the evenings to drink, and then becoming a nuisance to those living nearby and in some cases even committing crime. Anyone who was underage and found to have alcohol with them had it seized. They were given a youth referral notice and their parents were informed.

Sgt Niamh O'Donoghue, neighbourhood policing, said: "A surprisingly large amount of alcohol was seized, which means either the youths were able to buy this from retailers who were not making the appropriate ID checks, or adults have been irresponsible and have given the alcohol to the children or bought it on their behalf.

"Not only can alcohol be damaging to a young person's health, but when drunk they become vulnerable and susceptible to harm. A lot of reports of anti-social behaviour and crime are fuelled by alcohol, which is why we will continue cracking down on those who sell, or give, alcohol to people who are underage."

Test purchase operations will continue in conjunction with Lancashire Trading Standards to target underage sales of alcohol in off licenses and supermarkets. Sgt O'Donoghue added: "We are keen to keep the momentum going, especially up to and including the Halloween and Bonfire Night period. I would also like to warn youngsters that they could face arrest if they are drunk in a public place and are acting in a disorderly manner."

To report incidents of youths drinking in public places contact 0845 1 25 35 45.



**Rural residents urged to sign up to crime fighting scheme** RESIDENTS in rural areas of Fylde are being encouraged to join a special crime fighting scheme.

Fylde's FarmWatch initiative sees members receive regular updates about local crimes and security alerts via email so that they can take preventative measures to protect their own property. A quarterly newsletter, the Farm Post, is produced in conjunction with Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service and is also sent out to members. It contains appeals for information on recent crimes, along with useful contact details and general crime, fire and farm safety advice.

Sgt Niamh O'Donoghue, Fylde neighbourhood police team, said: "We are currently cracking down on rural crime as part of the county-wide Operation Firecrest and officers in rural areas will be targeting crimes such as scrap metal thefts, including the theft of catalytic converters from rural garages; the theft of plant machinery and wildlife crimes such as hare coursing and poaching, which in turn can lead to criminal damage and thefts being carried out at rural properties.

"We're keen to expand out Fylde FarmWatch scheme, which is a means of police keeping the farming, equine and landowner communities updated with any criminal activity in rural areas."

Those interested in joining farm watch should contact [Kirkham.farmwatch@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Kirkham.farmwatch@lancashire.pnn.police.uk) or call the 24 hour voicemail facility and quote farm watch on 01253 607044. In an emergency always dial 999.

**Motorists warned to take care as darker nights creep in**

LANCASHIRE Constabulary is reminding motorists to drive with care and ensure their vehicle is in a roadworthy condition as the dark nights set in.

Officers across Lancashire will be visiting schools and colleges to educate students on road safety and will have various check-points across the county to check that passing vehicles are in a good state of repair.

Road Policing Insp Kev Otter said: "The number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads is at the lowest in years but we typically see an increase in collisions at this time of year as the darker nights creep in.

"As it becomes darker it is harder to see pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists so drivers need to pay extra attention to the roads and take care with their journey.

"Motorists should make sure their vehicle is in good working order in terms of tyres, brakes and overall repair. They should ensure that lights are working and headlights are set correctly, washer bottles are full and wipers are working correctly.

"Pedestrians need to be aware that it is harder for motorists to see them and should take precautions. I would encourage them to wear high visibility clothing when on the roads during darkness and to use pedestrian crossings wherever possible.

"I would also ask parents to ensure that if their children are using a pedal cycle they have high visibility clothing and have working lights."

The action comes as part of Operation Pathway, a Force-wide campaign that sees high profile action days on the county's roads aimed at saving lives and protecting people.

**Catalytic converter thefts lead to warning to car owners**

CAR owners are being asked to store vehicles away at night where possible following a series of catalytic converter thefts in Lytham and St Annes.

A number of vehicles in the towns have been targeted for the metallic items, with thieves cutting them out from underneath vehicles.

Motorists are now being advised to keep vehicles locked in garages overnight and to consider using other crime prevention devices, such as security lights on their driveways, as added protection against thieves.

PC Kirsty Bargh, neighbourhood policing, said: "Scrap metal prices are high so anything metallic is tempting to thieves. A missing catalytic converter may not be instantly noticeable when you approach your car – but the cost of replacing it will certainly be noticeable, so we'd ask motorists to remain vigilant and take some simple crime prevention measures to keep their vehicles safe."

Anyone with information about the thefts is asked to contact police on 0845 1 25 35 45.

**Court Round Up**

A 40 year old male has been sentenced to 20 months imprisonment following 3 burglaries in the Lytham, Little Plumpton and Esprick areas.

A 22 year old St Annes male has been sentenced to 8 months imprisonment for theft of a pedal cycle in Lytham and damage to a vehicle in Freckleton whilst already on a suspended sentence for burglary.

A 27 year old male has pleaded guilty to driving above the alcohol limit after being stopped on Marsden Street in Kirkham. He has been disqualified for 18 months with costs of £380.00.

**Local Crime Figures**

Figures for Ribby with Wrea Ward	September 2010	September 2011	%+ or -
All criminal damage	0	0	No change
Domestic Burglaries	0	1	100%
Vehicle crime (theft of and from)	0	0	No change
All violent crime	0	0	No change