

Issue 5

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Welcome to the 5th edition of the rural e-newsletter. The latest crime figures in Carmarthenshire show that for the period of April 2009 – March 2010 8,166 crimes were recorded. This is a decrease of 863 crimes which when compared to the same period last year is a decrease of 9.6% in total recorded crime.

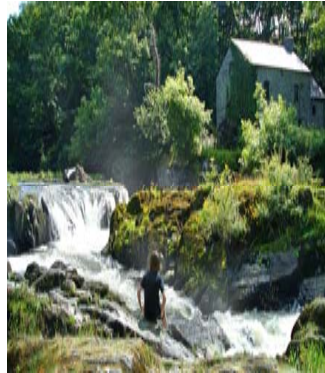
As advised in previous e-newsletters, we should not become complacent and we should always be vigilant in terms of securing our homes and property. For crime prevention advice, please phone **101** and ask to speak to a Community Safety Officer at Llanelli, Carmarthen or Ammanford police stations.

Theft of metal gates

There has been a recent increase in theft of metal gates from farms across the county. Gates have been lifted from hinges and stolen to be used for scrap metal. Police are urging farmers to secure all farm gates by reversing the hinge on one side of the gate to stop the gate being lifted. Alternatively, farmers can also weld a thread on the hinge to avoid the gate being lifted. Closing and locking farm gates behind you are also essential to avoid theft.

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Recent Rural Crime

- Sheep rustling - sheep worth in excess of £12,700 were stolen over the October - December period. Please secure farm gates with quality locks, consider a farm alarm and moving ewes closer to the farm when lambing.
- Quad bikes - two quad bikes were stolen from the north of the county. Please ensure that quad bikes are kept secure and consider using an anchor chain.
- Two trailers were also stolen over the last three months. We urge owners not to leave trailers insecure in fields and to consider using a hitch lock or wheel clamp when not in use.
- Equine theft totalled over £2,500 during the period. Please use quality locks on all outbuildings and mark property when possible.
- Tools - including lawn mowers, gardening equipment and chainsaws where stolen from sheds and outbuildings. To avoid theft, always secure and add Identity marks to items.



To report any non emergency please call the police on: **101**

You can report any rural issues by email:

rob.chapman@dyfed-powys.pnn.police.uk



RURAL E - NEWSLETTER

Carmarthenshire continues to be one of the safest places to live and work in the UK

Look After Your Oil Supply

As you will no doubt be aware, the price of both diesel fuel and heating oil has been rising consistently over the previous months. This has led to increases in the theft of diesel fuel from commercial vehicles and heating oil from storage tanks.

In an effort to try and combat the theft of heating oil, the following points may prevent you from becoming a victim of theft:

- Be aware of your oil levels and check them frequently
- Where possible keep your levels low and the same when refilling
- Speak to your supplier with regards to a more frequent but smaller delivery
- If you have a plastic tank, consider erecting fencing around the tank with one end hinged and locked for filling purposes. The fencing should be fixed to solid posts and should be set off the tank approx 12 inches on all sides. The same should be fixed to the top as well
- If you have a steel tank, fit a quality anti-cut close shackled padlock
- If you have outside security lighting, please ensure that the system works and that the light sensors have been adjusted correctly to detect movement

Keep Your Garage and Shed Secure

To improve security and reduce the chance of becoming a victim of crime, please consider the following:

- Fit good quality locks to all doors ensuring none of the screws/fittings are exposed
- Fit net curtains to all windows to stop prying eyes
- Fit internal bars to windows
- Ensure all contents are property marked with a postcode; using a U.V. marker, paint, engraving or stamping
- Keep a list of all items kept in your garage/shed to include make, model and serial numbers (keep the list in a safe place)

Please note if you do not keep the contents of your garage/shed secure, your insurance company may reject your claim.



Next Edition.....

If you have any suggestions or issues you would like us to cover in future newsletters please e-mail rhysmorris@carmarthenshire.gov.uk or call (01267) 234567



Reminders

Police Stations in Carmarthenshire:

- Ammanford
- Burry Port
- Carmarthen
- Cross Hands
- Felinfoel
- Kidwelly
- Llandeilo
- Llandovery
- Llanelli
- Newcastle Emlyn
- Pencader
- St Clears
- Whitland

To report any non emergency or to speak to a member of your local neighbourhood policing team please call: **101**.



Wales/Cymru
CRIMESTOPPERS
0800 555 111
 Call anonymously with information about crime
 Ffoniwch yn ddiennw os am roi gwybodaeth am drosedd