

Dales Police Crime Report March 2020

The following incidents of note have occurred in the Dales area this month –

Around midday on 18th February a Volvo car parked near Hawes Auction Market was entered and cash and a Makita cordless drill were stolen from within. Please avoid leaving valuables on view in your vehicle.

Overnight on 23rd to 24th February a green Can-Am ‘mule’ type off-road vehicle was stolen from a gamekeeper’s yard in Grinton. Over the following week two more similar ‘mule’ type vehicles were stolen in the Dales, one from Bainbridge, overnight on 24th to 25th February, and one from Agglethorpe in Coverdale, overnight on 29th February to 1st March. There is believed to be a connection to recent quad bike thefts in Upper Wharfedale and Wensleydale with thieves targeting the area from West Yorkshire. A number of arrests have already been made this year.

Please continue to call the police with sightings of suspicious vehicles and people at the time when you see them. Vehicle registration numbers are invaluable in these reports. Owners of such vehicles please take a few moments to check your security. Where possible lock them away in secure buildings overnight, preferably covered by cctv and alarms. Fitting ‘Tracker’ systems means that if stolen you greatly increase the chances of getting your vehicle back.

Local police continue to patrol remote areas with the valued assistance of rural watch groups.

Overnight on 1st to 2nd March thieves entered a barn at Sharp Hill Farm in Middleham and stole a number of power tools from within. Many are identifiable by being marked with the names Wheeler or Weedall. Please contact police on 101 should you come across these tools.

Sometime in early March a second home property in West Witton was broken into via a rear window. Burglars stole jewelry from within. If you are away overnight please leave signs of occupancy such as timers on lights to put off would-be burglars.

Around 9th March a number of lawful vermin control snares have been damaged in the area of Preston Moor. If you see traps or snares that you are unhappy with, please don’t take the law into your own hands but instead call the police and I will check them to ensure they are compliant with wildlife legislation.

We continue to take reports of a variety of attempted scams to relieve people of their hard earned money. Please be suspicious and remember if it sounds too good to be true it probably is. Always be wary of divulging personal information. Don’t be a victim!

Stay calm and wash your hands!

PC Julian Sutcliffe

Dales Neighbourhood Police Team