

Rural Task Force



**Kent
Police**

I think you will see from the below report that again we have been busy in tackling crime across the 4 areas of business, being Rural, Wildlife, Heritage and Environmental Crime.

Farm Watch Whats App continues to grow with now over 1500 members across the county sharing information directly to the team. You will see within the report examples of how the team act upon the information received and the results that are being obtained with your help. Thank for your continued support.

Anyone from within the rural community wishing to join a group please contact the RTF via the email: rural.task.force@kent.police.uk.

The team have seen an increase in reports of nesting bird disturbance, and I would like to remind everyone that it is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act to disturb any nesting wild bird. Please check any hedgerow before and cutting or trimming work is started.

There has also been an increase in caravan thefts, and I would like to remind all owners to ensure their security measures are in place and serial numbers are registered and recorded.

You will also see that our partnership work with local authorities continues, looking at those who carry waste. The teamwork in closely with the councils enforcing the legislation to reduce Fly Tipping, and those who would profit from illegally carrying/dispersing of waste. #KeepKentClean

Here is a snapshot of the work carried out by the Rural Task Force over the last 2 months.

Rural Theft

Silver Ford Transit stopped on the A249 near Detling as the vehicle was showing untaxed since October 2020. There were two male occupants. Driver was showing outstanding for Crime Report for Theft of Copper to value of £500 and another Crime Report relating to Theft of Cement Mixer so was arrested for these offences. Passenger initially gave false details but was subsequently identified as the second male involved in the Theft of Copper so was also arrested. Both males conveyed to Custody. A Stihl Disc Cutter was seized from the van to check its identity. The home addresses of both suspects were searched but with a negative result.



Theft of horse box overnight from Hever. Images of stolen horse box obtained and circulated. Informant advised that her registration plate was still on the trailer at the time of the theft. ANPR checks ascertained that the trailer and offending vehicle have hit an ANPR camera shortly after the theft. Investigation continues to identify suspect vehicle.



Theft of 2 caravans from Faversham area overnight on the 19th May and 4 caravans from a site at Rochester on the 20th May. Please ensure that you have security measures in place to deter caravan thieves.



Burglary at a woodyard at Bramling whereby Offender(s) have broken into a secure Barn within the Woodyard, forcing entry to a double set of steel doors. Offender have stolen Chainsaws, Power Tools and Tow Chains to the value of £4,000.



An AUDI A6 was sighted parked on a farm entrance on the 23rd May with two older males in the vehicle that had come onto the farm and had been unable to exit due to the gates being closed behind them. When challenged by the residents the males stated they were "Out for a drive". The informant believed this to be suspicious behaviour and posted it on the Kent Police Farm Watch Whatsapp group. The Informant provided an image of the vehicle.



At South Ash Road, West Kingsdown RTF went to stop this vehicle that failed to stop and made off driving erratically and dangerously excess speeds and conducting overtakes. The vehicle got caught in traffic at which point the driver and the passenger were arrested after the driver's window was smashed to detain them. Search of the vehicle showed a few articles possibly used to commit theft offences and therefore both arrested for Going Equipped, Dangerous Driving and Failing to stop. Both males have been interviewed by RTF and bailed for offences.

Report of a stolen Ifor Williams HB511 Horse Trailer. CCTV from the farm shows up to four people in the yard around 0247 hrs. Around 0305 hrs a light coloured, possibly silver Land Rover Discovery 3, drives into the yard and reverse up to the Trailer. It is then hitched on and driven out of the yard at 0312 hrs. The vehicle then turns around at the back of the farm and drives off towards Hawkinge.



Theft from farm at Staplehurst when Toyota Hi-Lux drove on to farm and stole logs and other equipment. No further sightings on ANPR and vehicle linked to address near Canterbury. Vehicle nominated to ANPR and crime report updated.

A Peugeot Partner van had been reported by multiple FarmWatch members as active at Farm sites and therefore had an ANPR act marker placed which alerted the team to its presence in Swale. RTF located the vehicle and it was followed to Cobham Service Station where it was stopped. S1 PACE search found the vehicle to contain several tractor and other large batteries believed stolen. The vehicle was also linked to the theft of £4,000 worth of car parts from a Garage. Whilst this was on-going enquires were being conducted at a Farm in Stockbury where this vehicle had entered the farm stolen the keys to the Quad Bike and Mule and persons had returned overnight trying to steal them – Keys found discarded the morning and signs that the container the quad and mule was in had been tampered with. All 3 males in the vehicle when it was stopped were arrested on suspicion of theft and the van seized.

Op Traverse (Freshwater Fish Thefts)

RTF Specials have been patrolling known locations for fish thefts/poaching that included Lullingstone and Mote Park



Two persons were fishing illegally at a river at Sevenoaks and were believed to be in possession of drugs. Both males were located and detained. They denied fishing but had fishing rods and other equipment in bags. They also denied having any drugs on them, however, following a search one was found in possession of a small amount of herbal cannabis and was issued with a PND.

Wildlife

Following intelligence received from the Metropolitan Police RTF attended an address in Gillingham and seized a wolf skin that had been purchased illegally. The purchaser was not known to the Police and unaware of CITES legislation and was dealt with by Community Resolution.



Report of person at a Gillingham address shooting at birds with an air rifle. Address attended and insufficient evidence to prosecute the occupants. However, A 177 Air Rifle was signed over by the occupant to be destroyed



RTF investigating a report from the Environment Agency (EA) that a farmer in Deal may be using snares to trap and then kill beavers. Contact made with EA to progress a joint investigation.

Report that visitors staying at a caravan park at Dymchurch trapping wild birds. Attended the caravan being rented by the family and located 3 Goldfinches in cages. Birds had small closed rings on their feet with no signs of them being forced on. Male stated that he had purchased the birds from a pet shop and agreed to provide details to officers when he got home. Birds appeared to be captive bred as opposed to wild. Male admitted that he had put traps out but stated these were for his own research purposes. Traps were seized and male was given advice in relation to Wildlife and Countryside Act offences.

Animal Welfare

Assisted Swale Borough Council Animal Welfare officers entering site to conduct inspection under Section 18 of Animal Welfare Act. Several complaints had been raised by the large number of dogs being kept at the location in poor conditions. Before officers entered the site, the numerous dogs could be heard barking constantly. There were 3 occupants of the site. Officers found over 40 dogs on the site being kept in cramped conditions. The dogs were constantly barking whilst the inspection took place evidence of a stator noise nuisance. All dogs' chips were checked, and none found to be stolen.



Livestock

Farmer in Tenterden had sheep attacked by a dog with lambs killed. The deceased lambs had been put in the rear of the vehicle with the informant's sheep dogs therefore contaminating any DNA opportunities, the informant realised his mistake and understands this. He has spoken to his neighbours who he suspects could be responsible but has no evidence. Informant called to log incident in case he is required to intervene in a further attack on his flock with a firearm.

Farm at River Rother near Wittersham reported 3 males with 2 dogs deliberately setting their dogs onto sheep. Circumstances were a farm worker could hear screaming and shouting from nearby vineyard and went to investigate to see dogs being encouraged to separate lamb from sheep and to attack it. One lamb badly mauled. Suspects then started shouting abuse at the lone female worker as she pulled dog of lamb and then started throwing stones and sticks at her. Thankfully they missed although the victim was very upset and extremely shaken. Suspects described as :-

Male 1 – white and approx. 20 years old. Dark hoodie with Nike Tick on the back and Jeans

Male 2 – white aged approx 20 years old. Wearing baseball cap with Yankee logo on it, dark hooded top and jeans

Male 3 – white aged approx. 20 years old. Hooded top with jeans.

RTF attended the local area and carried out house to house near to where the suspects were seen to try and identify CCTV opportunities but with a negative result. Media appeal arranged.

RTF visiting a site at Headcorn due to recent Livestock Worrying reports in the area. No person's present when officers on site. Dogs were in pen and someone is clearly attending daily to feed/clean them. A note was left at the kennels and contact made from owner via his solicitor. Dogs have now been moved from site. Investigation on-going.



Report of two females walking a dog near to Malmains Farm near Dover and the dog has been witnessed chasing number of Alpacas. They have sustained minor injury. The identification of the females is currently unknown.

Injured lamb found in field at Edenbridge with suspected dog bite. Despatched by vet and removed from farm. Victim given RTF contact details and forensic advice in the event of future attacks.

Heritage

There was a high value gold burglary to Arundel Castle where RTF assisted with some investigative work on two vehicles thought to have been involved. This is the home address of Duke of Norfolk. Chichester CID in charge of Investigation.

English Heritage reported lone male suspected to be removing bits from crashed B17 Bombr on the Sandwich Flats. This is a POMRA Offence. Witnesses have been contacted an an image of the suspect obtained. RTF and local Policing Patrols have been made aware and are attending the site during low tide. Security at Sandwich Bay Estate have also been asked to assist with checking the area during low tide. During one patrol of the site there was a discovery of munition from WW2 in the bay with HM Coastguard and Royal Navy EOD in attendance we stayed and helped maintain the cordon put in place for the public safety.

New activity

Sort



Andy Wood shared his first post.

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1 h · 🌐

Bumped into (not physical) two Kent Rural Police Officers today at Sandwich Bay having a look around for anyone removing bits of the B17. Had a chat and pointed them in the right direction although the wreck couldn't be seen today even at low tide. Been advised by the Police Officers that if anyone sees anyone removing bits from the B17 to ring it through as a 999.

👍 9

6 comments 2 shares



Attended Hever Castle for crime prevention follow up after suspicious behaviour by two males on site. Images obtained, Intelligence Report submitted, stop marker added to the vehicle identified as being linked to the males. Information shared amongst to all RTF Officers, local patrol teams and Sussex Police. Update vehicle was stopped on the back of the Marker added by RTF and the two males were searched as was their vehicle. No offences disclosed.



Fly Tipping (Op Assist)

Joint operation with Sevenoaks CPT/CSU/Sevenoaks Council and RSPCA at a site in the Sevenoaks area in relation to large scale fly tipping taking place at the site. Other information suggested that there was a structure in woodland that potentially housed stolen dogs. There were significant amounts of recent waste on site and Sevenoaks Council and KCC will be investigating the source of this. The wooden structure was located and contained horses and cockerels. All animals checked by RSPCA and no welfare issues raised. No evidence was found that stolen dogs are being stored on the site or surrounding woodland.



On the 20th May the RTF deployed to Ashford in a joint operation with BTP Officers, British Telecom Crime Officers and Officers from the Environment Agency, to conduct visits at several locations in Ashford relating to Scrap Metal. At one location suspected stolen BT cable was located and recovered by the BT Crime Officers and at the other sites only minor infringements were identified.



On the 21st May RTF carried out Op Assist at Swale and Canterbury.

For Swale numerous vehicles were stopped that resulted in 1 vehicle being seized as used in crime, 1 seized as suspected stolen and 3 Traffic Reports completed for No Insurance, No MOT and a Defective Tyre.



For Canterbury 4 vehicles were stopped that resulted in a FPN being issued for a vehicle carrying waste without a licence, 1 vehicle seized for no tax and 3 persons arrested for drug offence on suspicion of Possession with Intent to Supply.



On the 27th May RTF carried out Op Assist at Maidstone and Medway.

At Maidstone two sites were visited that were suspected to be used as unlawful waste burning sites. One of the sites an injunction issued by the Court was served to clear the land of waste. Several vehicles were stopped during the day but no offence disclosed.



At Medway 2 site visits were completed and at one a large barge was found dumped on the main road. The owner of the barge was located and is arranging for it to be moved. Several vehicles were stopped and checked. A yellow Ford Transit pickup was stopped carrying the waste and the driver was linked to a Robbery earlier in the day and he was arrested, and his vehicle seized as used in crime.



On the 9th June RTF carried out Op Assist at Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells.

Numerous relevant vehicles stop checked over the course of the operation across both boroughs. Stops of note were :-



A Ford Transit was stopped at Paddock Wood. The vehicle was loaded with scrap metal. Driver was found to be a provisional licence holder only and not shown as a named driver on the insurance policy, he was subsequently issued a Traffic Offence Report. The vehicle was seized.



A Ford Transit tipper was stopped at Brenchely. The vehicle was loaded with scrap and on-route to Scrapco.

The driver was issued a FPN by Tunbridge Wells waste crime team for scrap licence issues.

Ford Transit was stopped that had waste on board but stated this was from a family member and he was taking this to a disposal site in Erith. Driver spoken to by Sevenoaks Waste crime team. Vehicle Defect Rectification Scheme was issued to defects located on the vehicle.

On the 11th June RTF carried out Op Assist at Gravesham and Dartford. A total of 6 vehicles were seized: 2 suspected stolen and 4 for insurance and tax offences. Two Waste £300 FPN's were issued and 2 Waste Producers. Two males were arrested for Theft of Motor Vehicle and Criminal Damage. When stopped another male became abusive and aggressive towards Police Officers and was issued a Penalty Notice for a Public Order offence.



Officers stopped a Black Volvo S40 on Sutton Road, Maidstone. Vehicle is under investigation by Maidstone Borough Council under Operation Assist in relation to fly-tipping offences. Driver was identified and details have been passed to Maidstone Borough Council Waste Team.

On the 18th June RTF carried out Op Assist at Thanet and Dover. 6 Vehicles were stopped and 5 seized for No Tax. 3 Traffic Offence Reports were completed, 1 Driver interviewed and reported for Disqualified Driving offence, 2 Stop Searches under the Control of Pollution Act and 1 Producer by TDC for a Waste Transfer Notice and one male arrested for Drug Driving.





On the 21st June RTF carried out Op Assist at Maidstone. 6 Vehicles were stopped. 1 vehicle that was identified to a recent fly tip was found at the home address of the owner and seized. Another vehicle was stopped and found to contain scrap metal that the driver claimed was from the site and had not been collected by him from the roadside. Checks showed the vehicle had not been taxed since November 2020 and was seized and the driver was also issued a £300 FPN by MBC for not having a waste carriers' licence. Another vehicle was seized for no insurance.



On the 24th June RTF carried out an Op Assist at Swale. 3 vehicles were seized, 1 stolen vehicle and 2 for no tax and 2 Traffic Offence Reports for a Driving with a Mobile Phone and a No Seatbelt offence.



A white DAF LF 7.5 ton tipper lorry was stopped on High Street, Eastchurch. Vehicle is known as illegal waste carrier and is an Op Assist target vehicle. There were two males onboard. Vehicle had no waste on board at the time of the stop.

Vehicle was shown as having no tax and Driver did not have C1 entitlement permitting him to drive 7.5 ton vehicle. Vehicle seized for no tax and Driver reported for driving otherwise in accordance with a licence. The vehicle is suspected to be linked to organised illegal waste carrier activity.



A silver Ford Transit Tipper was stopped on the High Street in Eastchurch. There were 3 males' occupants. The driver stated he was down on the Isle of Sheppey to visit his cousin, but it is suspected he was collecting scrap as driving slowly down the High Street looking at properties. A load of scrap was in the rear of the vehicle when stopped. The vehicle was seized for no tax as it expired on the 01/02/2020. It is suspected they were about to steal a bike on the drive of a property in Eastchurch.



Other Business

Operation alongside Road Safety Team, West Kent CPT and Tunbridge Wells Council targeting vans and flat beds that pass through the local area and vehicles linked Overweight's, PG9 offences, insecure loads and offences around scrap metal cat convertor thefts. 5 Traffic Offence Reports issued (2 No Seatbelt, 1 No Mirror and 2 No Insurance), 3 x vehicle seizures for No Tax.



RTF responded to ANPR hit on a VW Tipper on Pembury Road, Tunbridge Wells. Vehicle was located on Commercial Road, Paddock Wood. Upon seeing police, driver abandoned vehicle and attempted to enter a property but was stopped prior to entering. Male was identified and was a provisional licence holder only and was not covered on the insurance policy held on the vehicle. Driver was issued a Traffic Offence Report and vehicle seized.



RTF assisted Faversham Town Centre Officer who had identified prolific shoplifter for a theft from the Co-Op on 22nd June and had information that he was currently in the Town Centre. Suspect located on foot and immediately made off and pursued on foot. He attempted to escape by jumping into a stream and swimming across but was detained in the stream by RTF officers and arrested. Suspect is a prolific offender and currently banned from Co-Op stores in Whitstable and Herne Bay and on Tag.

Vehicle seen to pull into BP Service Station on the A20 at Lenham and parked in a bay at the rear of the services. Vehicle was shown as no Insurance, no Tax since January 2019 and no MOT. Driver was dealt with for the driving offences when he returned from the store and vehicle was seized.



Suspicious event in Ditton Aylesford where a Local Police Patrol (LPT) have attempted to stop a Ford Transit suspected to be linked to Catalytic Converter thefts. Vehicle has Failed to Stop and due to LPT not suitably trained they have pulled over. Vehicle has then conducted a reciprocal and driven at officers. Vehicle then failed to stop for a Traffic Patrol through Rural Maidstone before stopping in Tovil. Driver was arrested for Dangerous driving, Disqualified Driving and No Insurance by Traffic Unit.

RTF deployed to dedicated operation to assist Kent Police Road Safety Team, Essex Police and DVSA at the Dartford River Crossing. 61 vehicles stopped by units in the Dartford area with 7 seizures for no Tax or No Insurance and 4 arrests for Drug driving, TOMV and Possession of drugs.





RTF patrolling at Crundale when attention was drawn to two motor vehicles, a Ford Ranger met with Dark Blue BMW. RTF marked patrol vehicle pulled in behind the Ranger and activated the Blue lights and immediately the Ranger accelerated at speed into a cropped field and decamped. Dog Unit requested but unfortunately an unsuccessful track. Vehicle has been seized for vehicle examination.



Stop Check at Bluewater Parkway, Bluewater, Dartford, on a white Vauxhall Insignia. Driver stated she was borrowing the vehicle as she was valeting for the owner. Owner was spoken to on the phone and confirmed this story. The vehicle was shown as untaxed since 2019. Whilst waiting for recovery the partner of the Driver phoned and offered to back pay the Tax. This was declined and the vehicle was seized.



RTF responded to ANPR activation in Medway in respect of a Black Vauxhall Insignia. The vehicle had a marker on it regarding driver being wanted on Warrant regarding a DA Stalking. Vehicle located in Rochester, however wanted male was not with it. Enquires were conducted and male was located and arrested at a nearby address.

Vehicle Seizure. Courtney Road, Tovil, Maidstone.
ANPR Stop, red Ford KA suspected to be on false plates. Vehicle was located unattended parked on Courtenay Road, Tovil. Checks on vehicle showed it displaying incorrect number plates and a search of the vehicle found a further set of vehicle plates in the boot. Vehicle was seized.



RTF stopped a vehicle at Gillingham, Medway, as it has a marker that it was being used by a wanted male. There was only one occupant in the vehicle and it was confirmed he was the male wanted for a total of 7 offences that included domesticated assaults and harassment and 2 public order offences in shops. Male was arrested and taken to Maidstone Custody.

Male wanted for a Domesticated Harassment Breach was located at an address in Dartford and arrested and conveyed to Medway Police Station.

A Mercedes was seen swerving all over the road, driving excessively slowly and shown as no insurance when checked. Vehicle was stopped and driver breath tested but with a negative result. However, the Driver was wanted on a Warrant for Failing to appear at Sevenoaks Magistrates and was arrested.



A vehicle was stopped following ANPR activation in Dover. Driver was wanted for a domestic ABH. Arrested and conveyed to Folkestone Police Station.

Patrols attention was drawn to a right-hand drive Citroen Berlingo Van. The Vehicle was stopped, and the driver claimed the Vehicle was registered in Belgium and insured with a French company. A check of the VIN identified the Vehicles true British index and was not a permanent export and vehicle was shown uninsured untaxed and expired MOT of March 2018. Driver had a previous conviction for false use of a trader insurance policy. He was interviewed and admitted the offences of False use of a registration mark, no insurance, no Tax and No MOT. A case file has been raised due to Driver already having 6 points and Report submitted as well as report to DVLA due to Driver's health and suitability to hold a driving licence.

A silver Vauxhall Zafira was seen driving along Wainscott Road, Rochester. It was located parked and insecure in the car park of the Co-OP. The index displayed on the vehicle related to a Zafira registered in Merseyside and due to this the visible VIN was checked. This confirmed the correct index which is registered to a local keeper. Whilst checking the vehicle a male came out of the Co-Op, saw Police and started to walk off. He was detained. He confirmed it was his vehicle, produced the key and admitted driving with no insurance. He stated he had changed the index to avoid being stopped and that the original ones were in the boot. These were in the boot. Driver reported for driving offences and vehicle seized.



Injury RTC M20 London Bound junction 4, two vehicle collision at which RTF attended and dealt with Traffic control.



A Ford Transit Tipper was stopped in Tonbridge. There were two occupants. The owner of the vehicle was the passenger as the driver does not hold a driving licence. A search was conducted of the vehicle and a small amount of herbal cannabis was found in the glove box and dealt with. The two males were collecting waste and had the correct waste carriers' licence.

No Tax seizure at Nottcutts, Maidstone. Driver associated with Rouge Trading. Vehicle previously seized in Ditton Kent for being untaxed.



Stop check A21 of Toyota Landcruiser towing a twin axle Ifor Williams trailer carrying bales of Hay. Driver on mobile phone. Stop confirmed offence alongside additional driving offences due to a lack of licence categories. Traffic Offence Report issued, and vehicle recovered by family member.



Male arrested for EBA and failing to provide Drug Wipe in Sittingbourne and conveyed to Canterbury Custody. Vehicle seen driving wrong side of carriageway towards officers in marked Police vehicle. Due to male's aggressive demeanour he was fast strapped and conveyed in a van.

RTF Officers located a male wanted for Breach of Non-Molestation Order linked to Hate Related Threats at an address in Faversham.

Silver Golf driven on Folkestone Road, Dover at excess speed towards Folkestone that then failed to stop for RTF officers. Area search conducted and vehicle found abandoned at High Meadow with no driver present. Whilst with the vehicle a male was seen walking past acting suspiciously. Male was detained and provided false details, however this was disproven and identified to be the registered owner to the vehicle Male was drug swiped and failed for testing positive for cocaine. Male was arrested and taken to custody where blood samples were taken, and interview was conducted. Male is currently released under investigation.



RTF North officers were tasked in locating a male wanted for Domestic Stalking and Controlling and Coercive Behaviour. Officers researched vehicle movement for suspect and located him during a late turn shift when the male was arrested and taking into Custody.

A beige Audi A4 overtook RTF marked patrol vehicle on M2 at speed and continued to drive excessively. Vehicle shown as uninsured, no keeper and no tax. Vehicle continued onto Thanet Way and then Failed to Stop, travelling into Whitstable. Once in Whitstable it drove into narrow terraced roads and drove on the footpath several times before being lost. 20 minutes after Failing to Stop. Vehicle was located parked outside an address with a male next to the vehicle removing tools from it. He was arrested and the vehicle and his address searched but nothing located. He was not directly linked to the vehicle and there was insufficient evidence that he was the driver, so he was de-arrested. Vehicle was seized for no insurance and failing to stop.

RTF responded to an ANPR for stolen Ford Focus. Vehicle reported stolen following domestic incident in Warwickshire. Vehicle located on M2 at Chatham and stopped at Brenley Corner. Driver initially arrested and following consultation with the owning force he was de-arrested, and the vehicle seized.

Citroen C4 stopped on Kingsley Road due to vehicle having no lights on. Previous keeper was the only insured party. Driver admitted no insurance and was issued a Traffic Offence Report and vehicle seized.



Court Results

PC Sutton from RTF stopped a vehicle and subsequently arrested the Driver on suspicion of Driving whilst under the Influence of Drugs on the 15th December. The Driver was later Charged and the matter was dealt with at Court on the 2nd June with the following result: _

Scott McKenna

Drive motor vehicle with a proportion of a specified controlled drug above the specified limit – Guilty

Sentence –

Disqualified from Driving for 24 months.

Fine £154 + £85 Court Costs

PC Smith from RTF stopped a vehicle and subsequently arrested the Driver on suspicion of Driving whilst under the Influence of Drugs on the 28th November. The Driver was later Charged and the matter was dealt with at Court on the 16th June with the following result: _

Kevin Batchelor

Drive motor vehicle with a proportion of a specified controlled drug above the specified limit – Guilty

Sentence -

Disqualified from Driving for 23 months.

Fine £190 + £85 Court Costs

Community Order with Electronic Tag from 16/06/21 to 15/09/21 with condition to remain at home address from 9pm to 6am.

PC Jordan from RTF stopped a vehicle and subsequently arrested the Driver on suspicion of Driving whilst under the Influence of Drugs on the 11th December. The Driver was later Charged and the matter was dealt with at Court on the 23rd June with the following result: _

Jimmy Ewen

Drive motor vehicle with a proportion of a specified controlled drug above the specified limit – Guilty

Sentence –

Disqualified from Driving for 12 months

Fine £120 + £119 Court Costs

RTF worked jointly with the RSPCA and obtained a search warrant at an address in Greenhithe where it was suspected that the owner was illegally trapping and keeping wild Goldfinches. During the search warrant birds were found in cages without rings and suspected to have been wild caught. The homeowner was interviewed and reported for an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. She attended Court on the 25th June where she pleaded Guilty to both offences with the following result

Karen Daniels

Sentence –

24 months conditional discharge to run concurrently in respect of both counts

Costs order of £200 plus victim surcharge of £22

Disqualified from keeping birds for 6 months under all sections

£60 costs in relation to expert fees.

Back in 2017 the RTF assist our colleagues from the Economic Crime Unit - Complex Fraud. The team assisted with the arrest for fraud by false representation and subsequent search of an address in Orpington. The defendant was charging excessive amounts for unnecessary building work

The builder was just sentenced to 4½ years in prison

<https://www.kent.police.uk/news/kent/latest/policing-news/rogue-trader-defrauded-teynham-man-of-over-100000/>

Kind regards, Darren Walshaw

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