

August 2024

## DNA DETERRENT

The team are always looking at new ways to deter and catch criminals. Using the latest technology such as the drone gives us the edge.

Tackling high value theft of agricultural machinery and plant is a team priority. Identifying items of recovered plant and its owner is always challenging.

We have teamed up with Selecta DNA to find a solution to this issue.



Selecta DNA produce a paint on solution that contains a unique code. It is waterproof, sticks to machinery and is very hard to remove.

Police can easily find the solution, obtain the code and check the database for the true owner at the roadside.

The kit can also be used to prevent theft. Each kit contains window stickers and signs to warn thieves that the item is marked.

The team used £50000 seized from criminals under the Proceeds of Crime Act to buy 200 kits. Each kit can mark up to 50 items.

We are now working to identify repeat victims of theft as well as those likely to be targeted in the future and get kits to them.

**THIEVES BEWARE**

 **SelectaDNA**<sup>®</sup>  
Advanced Forensic Marking

**DNA MARKED & POLICE TRACEABLE**

[www.selectadna.com](http://www.selectadna.com)

DA0326/2

**Domestic abuse is all about control. If you notice that someone seems to be controlled in all areas of their life, it could be a sign they are being abused.**

**SETDAB.org**

Now there's a quick online alternative to calling 101 or visiting a police station:  
**DIGITAL 101**



Do it online at:  
[essex.police.uk](http://essex.police.uk)

**IN AN EMERGENCY  
ALWAYS CALL 999**



## AUGUST EVENTS

August has been a busy month for the team.

We were pleased to visit the Paglesham Show where we displayed one of our new Volvo XC60 vehicles.



The team carried out another presentation and tack marking event with the Essex Bridleway Association.

We have an etching machine that can engrave any surface making it ideal to mark leather.



We also visited the Hedingham Castle classic car show. Luckily, our vehicle isn't a classic yet!



We continued our popular dog engagement events at Gosbecks Archaeological park in Colchester. Teaming up with Colchester City Park Rangers, we gave out dog safety and responsible ownership advice.





## WARTIME HERITAGE

RET were quick to swing into action after an archaeological dig in Uttlesford was disturbed by anti-social behaviour.

Serving United States Airforce personnel have been excavating a crashed WW2 American bomber in a field, searching for human remains from the crew who were sadly killed in the crash.

Some items had been stolen from the dig, tents knocked over and a vehicle driven in the field. RET attended the site several times and spoke to the land owner to prevent repeat issues.



## WORK EXPERIENCE

A group of teenagers were invited to Police headquarters to carry out work experience with the force this summer.

The group learnt about the various roles and departments within Essex Police .



RET were invited to talk about our role tackling rural crime.

Having discussed hare coursing we had a team member dressed in camouflage hide and flew the drone to locate him with the students directing where to search.

## RET TO THE RESCUE

When retired police horse Biscuit suffered a nasty fall while out in Earls Colne, RET were on hand to help.

Needing to get back his paddock by the most direct route, RET provided an escort to keep the injured horse calm and motorists away.

After his years of public service, often in dangerous and violent situations, we think it's the least he deserves.

We wish Biscuit a speedy recovery.





## HARE COURSING

Sadly, with harvest in progress the hare coursing season has started again.

We have responded to a number of calls across the county.

The team are out every day patrolling our rural areas and disrupting coursers. We use intelligence and reports to target our patrols.

In Roxwell, Chelmsford, RET seized a car used for coursing which was abandoned in a farmers field.



If you see hare coursing in progress, call 999. Local officers with support from RET will attend if suspects are still on scene.

## RURAL CRIME ADVICE

Do you need advice on rural crime? Would you like RET to visit your event or speak to your community group?

RET lead the force on the following issues -

- Wildlife and heritage crime.
- Hare coursing
- High value theft of plant
- Rural road safety
- Dog theft
- Fly tipping
- Unauthorised encampments



If you would like us to attend your event, email us at [RuralEngagementTeam@essex.police.uk](mailto:RuralEngagementTeam@essex.police.uk)

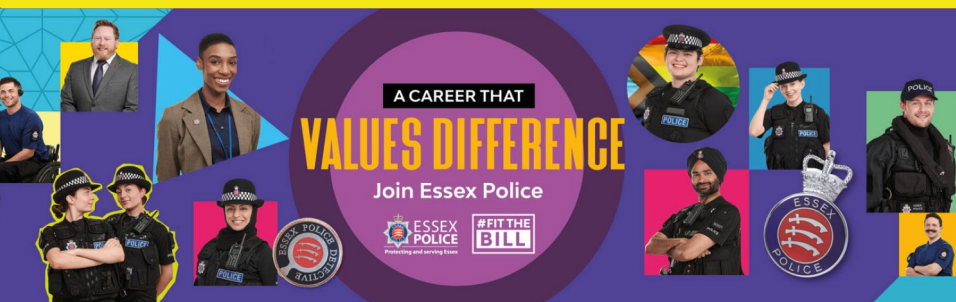


## Digital 101

You can report non-emergency crime by calling **101** or by using **Digital 101**, our quick and easy to use online service that's available at any time.



**Digital 101** is available on the Essex Police website: [essex.police.uk](http://essex.police.uk)



If you, or anyone you know, is interested in protecting and serving Essex, you can follow us on social media, or search **#FitTheBill**