

Local News:

Police are appealing for witnesses following a robbery in Hepworth.

The incident occurred shortly before 6pm yesterday, Tuesday 15 January, at a property in the vicinity of Clay Lane and Summer Road.

The victim – a man aged in his 30s – was approached by two masked men while he was outside the property. They grabbed him, threatened him and forced him inside, where they then conducted a search and stole keys, an amount of cash and a mobile phone. The phone was later found discarded nearby.

After the search, the victim was hit on the head with a crowbar and a brick. The men then left in a small silver car and joined the A143 Bury Road from Clay Lane.

The first male suspect wore a black hoody and black trainers with white soles.

The second male suspect wore light grey jogging bottoms and black trainers with white soles.

As a result of the incident, the victim was taken to hospital where it was discovered he had sustained a fractured wrist.

Detectives would like to hear from anyone who may have any dash camera footage captured between the times of 5pm and 6.30pm on the A143 Bury Road, or saw a small silver car join the A143 from Clay Lane shortly after 6pm on the 15th January.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact West CID at Bury St Edmunds Police Station on 101 quoting reference 37/2908/19.

Alternatively, contact the charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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Police are reminding dog owners to take appropriate steps to keep their dogs under control after two incidents in West Suffolk recently.

The first took place on Monday 7 January in a field near to Waldingfield aerodrome sometime between 6:00am and 10:00am. A sheep was found injured after trying to get through an electric fence. It is believed that the sheep was being chased by a dog.

The second incident took place on the same day in the vicinity of Powney Street in Milden. A sheep in a pen sustained serious injuries after it was attacked by a dog.

Sergeant Brian Calver from the Rural Crime Team said, "Despite repeated appeals, attacks on sheep and livestock by dogs continue happen across our county. We recognise that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible and take appropriate action to keep their pets under control around livestock. Farmers have a right to shoot any dogs that are attacking livestock and nobody wants to see this happen. I would remind dog owners or those walking dogs that they are responsible for any damage that the dog in their care may commit.

Rogue Trader Alert:

Police have warned that during Tuesday 22nd January, two males were offering gravel for sale in the Stowmarket area, claiming it was leftover material from work for Highways Dept. This has been confirmed to be false. Both men were dressed in orange high visibility clothing and were using a white Ford Transit tipper truck with an orange lighting bar on the cab roof.

NHW:

Between 0001hrs and 0830hrs on Wednesday 2nd January, two saddles were stolen from a stable in Woolpit

Equine Security advice from Suffolk Constabulary:

Key Points to Consider :

- Ensure you have good physical security
 - Consider installing an alarm
- Always secure your valuables
- Always lock doors
- Never leave tack lying around especially at shows
- Security mark all of your tack and equipment
- Photograph and security mark your horse

Stables and riding equipment are prime targets for thieves in Norfolk and Suffolk. This Guidance Note provides some advice you may find helpful:

Mark your tack. Tack can be effectively marked with your postcode using ultra-violet marker pens, engraving, stamping or even paint. Alternatively you could consider forensic marking solutions - these are harmless solutions that contain a unique forensic code (like a fingerprint), making it easy to identify marked items.

Firms that provide these marking solutions include:

- SmartWater – www.smartwater.com
- SelectaDNA – www.selectadna.co.uk
- Applied DNA Sciences - www.adnas.com

Property marking may dissuade a thief if you advertise the fact that your property is coded and it will certainly improve the chances of tracing stolen items and perhaps catching the thief.

Alternatives to property marking are microchips such as Datatag or Chips4Tack.