



MONTHLY REPORT

SEDLESCOMBE & EWHURST WARD

PCSO Demi Georghiou and PC Karen Heyes

JUNE 2011

SEDLESCOMBE

No crimes reported this month

EWHURST GREEN

No crimes reported this month

STAPLECROSS & CRIPPS CORNER

Between 27th May and 4th June roofing lead was stolen from the Staplecross Primary school. This was during the half term period and is believed to be linked to other thefts of lead in the area.

LOCAL PRIORITIES

Please see the Sussex Police Website under your area to find out your local priorities and what is happening in your area.

www.sussexpolice.co.uk

HORSEWATCH

Reported in this week's Horse & Hound: four horses have died in Nutley, East Sussex after a freak incident involving bees. You are advised to ensure that any bee hives kept on premises where horses are also kept, that the hives should where possible be kept at least 2 fields away and the hives should also be very well fenced with stock proof fencing.

The horses were aged between two and 20 and died after being attacked by a swarm.

"It is heartbreaking," said the owner, who kept nine hives near her paddocks. "We can only guess at what has happened. Something

disturbed the bees — perhaps one horse jumped out and knocked a hive. We've never had any problems before — the hives were in a well-fenced field, it was totally unprecedented."

One of the horses was found dead on the afternoon of the attack, while another died the following day. Both were assumed to have suffered anaphylactic shock [intense allergic reaction] and heart failure. The other two drowned in a pond, presumably fleeing the bees.

"I've since been told by the Beekeepers Association that bees don't like the smell of horses," she added. "That's not to say that a bee is going to attack a horse, but hives should be kept at least a field away."

"I would like to stress that this was a freak accident," added Sgt Michael Keeler from East Sussex Police.

Also include below is an extract from an email sent out to all members of the High Weald Beekeepers Association.

Dear HWBKA Member

.....This is a very tragic and rare occurrence, and in many places horses are kept near to bees without any problems, but there is an old saying "bees & horses don't mix", and it would seem that we need to re-learn a salutary lesson.

Under normal circumstances cattle and sheep are not bothered by bees at all, and it is fine to keep bees in an adjacent field.

It is vital, though, that your fences are very well stock proofed.

Many people with chickens keep them close to the bees, and there is no problem there.

With horses, it would be sensible to keep a field's distance between them and the bees, at least 100 yards, and to be aware of bridle paths, etc.

As we know, bees do not like some odours, particularly strong ones, which may contain scents similar to some of their pheromones. An example of this are the citrus type fly sprays, which are reputed to upset the bees.

If you handle horses, it is best to wash and change before handling the bees, just to make sure you are not taking any strong odours with you.

This email is going to High Weald members and others we believe to have bees, in order to make beekeepers aware to the risks, however rare.

[NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH](#)

Neighbourhood Watch for the Battle area is now joining Rye and Bexhill and will come under the title of Rother Neighbourhood Watch. PC Karen Heyes has been appointed the Special Point of Contact for the Battle area – please call if you would like to join the scheme 07810655971.

There are lots of new and interesting initiatives for Neighbourhood Watch which include local sponsorship from companies and a reward scheme with local businesses and members.

Neighbourhood Watch is very important to the work we do and we need more members - please consider and have a look online at the Sussex Police Website or again call PC Heyes.

OPERATION VORTEX

Operation Vortex has come to the Rother District. This is a high visibility operation which will be located at different areas of the district. It involves carrying out checks on vehicles being driven in Rother for offences such as no insurance, no MOT, condition of vehicle etc.

BE AWARE, IF YOUR VEHICLE IS NOT INSURED IT MAY BE SEIZED!

OPERATION CRACKDOWN

Please don't forget, if you see any form of Anti-social driving (speeding, using a mobile phone whilst driving, regular drink drivers, disqualified drivers etc), please report it to us via our Op Crackdown system:

<http://www.operationcrackdown.org/> or 01243 642222

CRIMESTOPPERS

Or, if you have any information about crimes that have occurred or, possible illegal activities that people are committing, you can always report it to Sussex Police on 0845 60 70 999, or anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, <http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org/>

**Thank you
Karen**

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