

ARCH

JULY 2013

ALLIANCE TO REDUCE
CRIME AGAINST HERITAGE



Heritage Watch



ASSOCIATION OF
CHIEF POLICE OFFICERS



ENGLISH HERITAGE



HERITAGE CRIME PROGRAMME 2013

Dear ARCH member,

It is over two years now since the ARCH launch and over a year since our last newsletter. In that time much progress has been made with the Heritage Crime Programme.

You are now one of over one hundred and ninety members of ARCH and there are now 16 signatories to the Heritage Crime memorandum of understanding, with the Peak District being the first National Park to sign.

As a result active partnerships have been, and continue to be, set up across England with practitioners and community groups gaining the skills and competence to tackle and investigate heritage crime. This has been supported by English Heritage who has held a series of training and awareness sessions nationwide and published a series of guidance to support partners.

English Heritage or partner agencies, often working together, have investigated a total of 351 cases across England (70 in 2013 so far) with an increased use of Heritage Crime Impact Statements to demonstrate the true harm caused to heritage through crime.

We have a new Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) lead for heritage crime, Chief Constable Andy Bliss, who is chairing a new Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) working group to tackle heritage crime.

We have commissioned further research into regulatory crime affecting listed buildings to give us a greater understanding of this area.

Our success in tackling heritage crime depends on us working together in partnership – owners and occupiers of heritage assets, enforcement agencies, community and voluntary groups.

I hope you enjoy reading about all these developments, but most importantly I hope you can continue to contribute to the prevention of heritage crime.

Please see the back page for what you can do.

On behalf of our precious heritage, thank you for your support and for working with us to tackle heritage crime.

Mike Harlow
Governance and Legal Director, English Heritage
Twitter @EHLegalDirector



Progress in Numbers - May 2013

We are delighted to report that since the last ARCH newsletter in March 2012 there are now:

193 Members of the Alliance to Reduce Crime against Heritage

16 Signatories to the Heritage Crime Memorandum of Understanding (**15** local authorities and **1** National Park Authority)

351 criminal offences and incidents of anti-social behaviour have been investigated by English Heritage or partner agencies since March 2010, as follows:

73 – 2010

113 – 2011

106 – 2012

84 – 2013 (to date)

Almost **7,000** practitioners and community volunteers have been briefed and trained by English Heritage since 2010.

Research

In our last newsletter we reported the findings of research commissioned by English Heritage in 2011 by Newcastle University, Loughborough University and the Council for British Archaeology into the national and regional incidence of crime affecting heritage assets.

The facts and figures:

- Around **75,000** designated historic buildings and sites were affected by crime every year – 200 every day.
- In areas of high deprivation, a quarter of all heritage assets (**26.2%**) were the subject of criminal damage.
- But there is little variation from region to region – **19.8%** of heritage assets in the South were affected by crime compared with **20.3%** in the North.
- Our most precious buildings were the worst affected – **22.7%** of Grade I and II* buildings were subject to heritage crime, compared with **18.3%** of Grade II buildings.
- Listed churches were by far the most at risk. More than a third (**37.5%**) were damaged by crime, and one in seven (**14.3%**) by metal theft.
- **15.3%** of scheduled monuments and **20%** of Grade I and II* buildings were affected by antisocial behaviour – a major deterrent to people's enjoyment of them.

This research focused on criminal activities by third parties - not committed by the owner/occupier of a heritage asset - such as theft, criminal damage and arson. It did not give us an understanding of the level of regulatory crime – crimes committed by owners or occupiers who carry out work without a necessary consent, such as listed building consent.

In December 2012 English Heritage commissioned new research to investigate the extent of works to listed buildings carried out without consent when it was required, to try to build a picture of the incidence of this type of regulatory crime. We hope to publish the findings of this research later in the year.

New Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Heritage Crime Working Group



In our last newsletter we announced that Chief Constable Andy Bliss (above) of Hertfordshire Constabulary would be taking the lead on Heritage Crime following the retirement of Chief Constable Richard Crompton in April 2012.

We are delighted that Chief Constable Andy Bliss has taken on the role of Heritage Crime lead and is chairing a new Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) working group which has been set up to provide a united and co-ordinated approach to tackling heritage crime. It brings together existing work streams developed by English Heritage.

Chief Constable Bliss says:

“Recognising the growing of organised crime upon the heritage sector nationally and internationally, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and the Home Office have recently agreed that I will establish an ACPO Heritage Crime Working Group (HCWG), a team of experts brought together to review how to best conserve and protect fixed heritage assets, historic artefacts and cultural property for future generations.

I envisage that in coming years the HCWG will not only provide vital strategic coordination but also ensure that police forces and other law enforcement agencies have access to the advice of appropriate experts in tackling heritage crime.

In financially challenging times it is vital that all law enforcement agencies work closely with the government, English Heritage, curatorial organisations, lawful dealers and, importantly, the public to minimise the threat of heritage crime. I am determined that we in policing, whether local neighbourhood constables or specialist teams operating against international organised crime gangs, are making the best use of our available resources to protect our heritage for the future.”

Following the inaugural meeting of the working group, members are working together to devise a national strategy to advise and support police forces and criminal justice partners in the area of Heritage Crime.

The working group will be monitoring national and international threats and in the future will provide bespoke heritage crime prevention advice and intelligence to all police forces across the UK.

If you would like to read more of Chief Constable Bliss on Heritage Crime please follow the link below to Conservation Bulletin: Heritage Crime (Issue 70):

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/conservation-bulletin-70/>

More Local Authorities Join Forces

Since our last newsletter in March 2012 six local authorities and one National Park Authority have joined the fight against heritage crime by becoming signatories to the Heritage Crime Memorandum of Understanding.

These bodies play a key role along with the Police, the Crown Prosecution Service and English Heritage in tackling heritage crime in local areas and their endorsement and support is vital to the fight.

Your continued help in encouraging your local authority or National Park authority to sign up to the Memorandum would be greatly appreciated.

Current signatories:

Canterbury City Council

Cheshire West and Chester Council

Dover District Council

Hertfordshire County Council

Ipswich Borough Council

London Borough of Lambeth

London Borough of Redbridge

Norfolk County Council

Northamptonshire County Council

Cambridgeshire County Council

Chichester District Council

Essex County Council

Maldon District Council

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council

Peak District National Park Authority

Suffolk County Council

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Since the launch of the Heritage Crime Programme, active partnerships have been set up across England and practitioners and community groups are already gaining the skills and competence to tackle and investigate heritage crime. They have been helped in this by a nationwide series of conferences, seminars and workshops.

Elements of the English programme have also been reviewed and adopted in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Partnerships are now working together to share intelligence and press for action at a local level and will continue to develop as the annual assessment regime adopts the full range of quantitative and qualitative research methods.

First National Park Authority to join partners to tackle Heritage Crime

In August 2012 The Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) joined the fight to tackle heritage crime by becoming a signatory to the Heritage Crime Memorandum of Understanding.

They are the first National Park Authority in the country to sign the Heritage Crime Memorandum of Understanding, a pledge to work jointly with English Heritage, the police and Crown Prosecution Service to prevent, investigate, prosecute and advise on heritage crime.

The PDNPA has also joined the 193 strong Alliance to Reduce Crime against Heritage (ARCH).

The Peak District has a rich inheritance of historic structures and archaeological remains, with more than 2,900 listed buildings. In particular, its churches have been targeted by metal thieves in the past couple of years, with lead stolen from historic churches in Hartington, Hathersage, Castleton, Youlgrave and Chelmorton.

In July 2012 two Nottingham men were sentenced to 12 months and 9 months imprisonment at Derby Crown Court for stealing lead from St John the Baptist Church, Chelmorton. The PDNPA provided an Impact Statement in support of the prosecution.

Irresponsible property owners are also being targeted – the PDNPA recently prosecuted a householder who refused to remove uPVC windows inserted without appropriate consent, from his listed farmhouse despite several warnings; he was fined £2,600 and ordered to pay £800 costs.

Stone artefacts are often stolen for garden ornaments – the capstone of Hope Cross, an 18th-century guidepost between Edale and Hope, disappeared early this year, but was found dumped in a lay-by after media publicity which was helpful in alerting the public to the crime.

Other heritage crimes include vandalism, arson, graffiti, unauthorised metal detecting, and trail-bike riders who wantonly scramble over archaeological remains such as 19th-century lead-rakes and prehistoric burial mounds causing considerable damage to buried archaeology as a result.

Pauline Beswick, the PDNPA's member representative for cultural heritage, said: "By signing the Heritage Crime Enforcement memorandum we strengthen our action to combat these crimes by working together with like-minded organisations in a common cause."

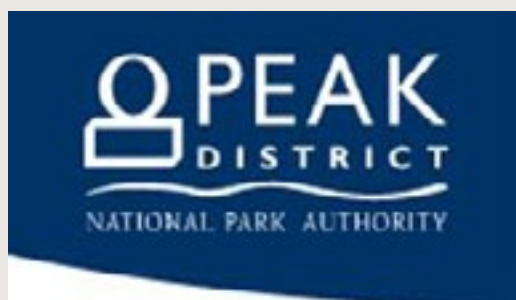
"People may think the loss of a few hundred pounds worth of metal from a church roof isn't important, but it can destroy centuries-old timber, stone carvings and plaster as water leaks into the building, causing thousands of pounds worth of repairs that churches struggle to pay. Once objects are damaged, removed or destroyed they are lost forever. We owe it to future generations to protect them from harm."

Cont.

National Park Authority (cont.)

English Heritage are delighted that the PDNPA has joined ARCH and become a signatory to the Heritage Crime Memorandum of Understanding; the Heritage Crime Programme has already shown that it can bring together different organisations within communities to establish local networks, which is the most important part of the programme because this is where the real difference can be made if we can galvanise local action.

English Heritage is working with other National Park Authorities to become signatories too.



ARCH Membership Continues to Grow

We are delighted to announce that there are now 193 members of ARCH. New members include cathedrals, local charities and history societies, university departments and security companies, as well as private individuals.

A full list of ARCH members can be found on the ARCH pages of the English Heritage website:

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/advice/advice-by-topic/heritage-crime/arch/>



Enforcement Operations

Since March 2010 English Heritage has assisted and supported the investigation of over 300 reports of crime and anti-social behaviour. The following represent a small proportion of the overall number of incidents that have occurred.

Operation Totem – Lincolnshire Police, South Yorkshire Police, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) working with English Heritage and finds experts from the British Museum launched this operation in February 2011 to combat illegal metal detecting in the Horncastle area through partnership working. This model of working has since been rolled out countywide.

As a result, Kevin Lomas from Rotherham, South Yorkshire, was charged with 12 offences following an investigation by police that found that he had acquired a large quantity of coins and historic artefacts illegally. These items were seized during the execution of a warrant along with metal detecting equipment from Mr Lomas' home.

Mr Lomas appeared before District Judge John Stobbart at Skegness Magistrates Court in August 2012 and was found guilty of 8 counts of theft and one offence of going equipped to steal. An order was made forcing him to forfeit his metal detection equipment and associated items. He received a 12 month conditional discharge and was ordered to pay £400 towards costs.

Sergeant Alasdair Booth of Horncastle Police, Lincolnshire who led the operation said, "Operation Totem was introduced to deal with concerns raised by members of the farming community who were suffering from persons illegally using metal detectors on their property. This was resulting in significant damage to crops and the loss of unique historic artefacts." He added "A great deal of work was carried out by the officers involved in the operation to bring offenders to justice and to send out a clear message that illegal metal detecting and heritage crime will be taken seriously."



Above: Horncastle Police © Lincolnshire Police

Enforcement Operations (cont.)

Operation Quartile – Northhamptonshire. This investigation into illegal metal detecting was carried out by Northhamptonshire Police and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) working with English Heritage and the British Museum.

In December 2012 at Northampton Crown Court, Peter Cox and Darren West both from Northamptonshire, pleaded guilty to stealing artefacts from Chester Farm Roman Settlement, Near Irchester, Northamptonshire, which is a scheduled monument causing serious damage to it.

Both received a sentence of one year imprisonment suspended for 2 years, 150 hours of community service, a curfew, confiscation of metal detecting equipment, compensation for damage caused to the scheduled monument, and Anti-Social Behaviour Orders that restrict the use of metal detecting equipment.

Dr Pete Wilson a Roman Expert from English Heritage provided an Impact Statement for the Court explaining the irreversible nature of the harm caused by illegal metal detecting and removal of objects

Mike Harlow, Governance and Legal Director of English Heritage, said: "The sentence today sets an important watershed in the combat against illegal metal detecting and acknowledges its true impact on society."

Mark Holmes, senior crown prosecutor and heritage crime co-ordinator for CPS East Midlands, said: "This practice of illegal metal detecting and stealing artefacts from the ground has been a growing problem, which the Crown Prosecution Service takes seriously. Often carried out by so-called 'enthusiasts', this kind of activity has retained a veneer of respectability which it just does not deserve. Land is being damaged; the theft of ancient artefacts robs us of important information about our heritage and the artefacts themselves are lost to the public. This case is the largest scale operation we have prosecuted for this type of crime. It should serve as a warning to anyone else involved in this activity that it is a crime and if you are caught you face prosecution and a criminal record. The CPS will continue to work closely with our partners in preventing heritage crime and ensuring perpetrators are brought to justice."



Left: Sarah Bridges of Northamptonshire County Council inspecting damage at Chester Farm
© Northamptonshire County Council

Enforcement Operations (cont.)

Operation Denby – Kent Police continue to work with French Customs, English Heritage and the Army to disrupt and deter the importation of artefacts, including live ammunition from Great War battlefields. The operation is preparing a response for the forthcoming anniversary of the start of the First World War in 1914.

Operation Tapul – East Midlands. Lincolnshire Police worked with English Heritage to investigate and prosecute a metal theft gang who targeted 20 churches across Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire.

Andrius Cereska, Tadas Andruska, Audrius Kvedaras and Vidas Andruska ran an operation targeting churches and ripping lead from their roofs during night time raids, which they sold on at metal recycling yards. It is estimated that the gang stole 70 tonnes of lead, which they sold for £70,000, but the damage they caused to the churches was estimated at more than five times that amount.

Vidas Andruska was found guilty at Lincoln Crown Court of conspiracy to steal and was sentenced to 7 years imprisonment. The remaining three defendants pleaded guilty to the same charge and each received a sentence of 4 years imprisonment. Vitalijus Vilkys admitted handling stolen lead and was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment suspended for 2 years and 180 hours community service. Nerijus Razma admitted 1 count of theft and was sentenced to 22 months in prison.

The CPS East Midlands Senior Crown Prosecutor Simon Rowe described it as the biggest case of its kind ever prosecuted. Dr Dale Dishon from the East Midlands Team English Heritage was able to provide an Impact Statement to explain to the Court the irreversible nature of the loss and harm caused as a result of this criminal behaviour.

Enforcement Operations (cont.)

Priddy Circles – is a Neolithic site in Somerset and a scheduled monument. English Heritage was assisted by Avon and Somerset Police in a prosecution for unauthorised works to this monument.

Between April and October 2011 large-scale earthmoving, a fence and gate construction, tipping and extensive rutting from the movement of vehicles took place without scheduled monument consent on the scheduled monument being a group of large, circular earthworks of prehistoric date. The unauthorised works affected one of the four Circles namely Priddy Circle 1, the southernmost circle causing serious harm to the monument.

In October 2012 Roger Penny from Somerset, the owner of the monument, pleaded guilty to carrying out works to the scheduled monument without consent from the Secretary of State and was sentenced at Taunton Crown Court to a fine of £2,500 and ordered to pay costs of £7,500. In addition he entered into a voluntary agreement with English Heritage to carry out substantial mitigation works to the scheduled monument at a cost to him of around £38,000. In sentencing the judge made it clear that had it not been for Mr Penny's agreement to pay these substantial mitigation costs, the fine would have been significantly higher. He also took into account Mr Penny's early guilty plea, good character and full cooperation throughout the case.



Above: Priddy Circles after the damage © English Heritage

Phil McMahon, Inspector of Ancient Monuments was the lead investigator for English Heritage and worked with DS Chris Palmer and DC Karen Holt from Avon and Somerset Police. Phil McMahon and Jonathan Last, an English Heritage expert in pre-history, both provided Impact Statements to the Court for sentencing.

English Heritage said 'The outcome of this case sends out a clear message that English Heritage can and will prosecute in cases of serious damage and unauthorised works to Scheduled Monuments. The defendant and the court have recognised the great importance of these sites and the serious nature of this offence. The outcome reflects the substantial penalty offenders may expect to receive if convicted. The court has also recognised the importance of mitigating the impact to this damaged site. This will give back to the monument some of what has been lost.'

Enforcement Operations (cont.)

Baylam scheduled monument – Roman site, Suffolk. Suffolk Police working with English Heritage and finds experts from the British Museum to investigate and prosecute for illegal metal detecting.

In August 2012 Mr Mitchell and Mr Oakley of Dartford, Kent pleaded guilty at West Suffolk Magistrates' Court to the theft of historic objects and using metal detecting equipment in a protected place without consent and were each given a 24 month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £85 costs. The Court also made an order forfeiting the stolen artefacts and the metal detection equipment and associated items.

John Ette, Inspector of Ancient Monuments for English Heritage assisted with the investigation and Dr Pete Wilson a Roman Expert from English Heritage provided an Impact Statement for the Court explaining the irreversible nature of the harm caused by illegal metal detecting and removal of objects.

Henry Moore Sundial – Hertfordshire Police worked with English Heritage to investigate and prosecute for theft of this Henry Moore sundial and a bronze plinth.

In December 2012 Liam Hughes and Jason Parker, both 19 and from Essex were sentenced to 1 year in custody after pleading guilty to 2 counts of theft from The Henry Moore Foundation. On sentencing the judge said: "The value of the Sundial is put at something like half a million pounds, but the truth is it is actually priceless because it cannot be replaced should it be lost."



Above: The sundial © Henry Moore Foundation

"These actions were utterly selfish thefts. You were stealing these items for a pittance as scrap regardless of any damage or impact your actions might have on others." "You took the risk of causing immense damage to the Henry Moore Foundation and you were risking the permanent destruction of the items that, certainly in the case of the Sundial, are irreplaceable works of art,"

The sculpture and plinth were recovered by the police after an appeal on the BBC One's Crimewatch programme. A metal dealer, who had bought the piece, (valued at up to half a million pounds), in good faith for £46 recognised the work and called the police immediately.

Enforcement Operations (cont.)

Sandhill Park – Somerset, Grade II* listed building. Avon and Somerset Police working with English Heritage to investigate and prosecute for arson resulting in serious damage to the building.

In February 2013 four men were sentenced at Taunton Crown Court for arson which caused substantial damage to the Grade II* listed building which is a former grand country house in Somerset and is on English Heritage's at risk register. They were sentenced to between 12 and 27 months in prison after pleading guilty.

In sentencing, the judge took into account an Impact Statement from Jenny Chesher, Historic Buildings Inspector for English Heritage which explained the historical and architectural importance of Sandhill Park, and why the building was at risk and the major setback the fire caused to progress to secure the future of the building.

Speaking after the sentencing, the investigating officer DC Kevin Pellow said: "This was a catastrophic attack on a house which has played a significant part in the history of Bishops Lydeard."



Above: Sandhill Park before the fire © English Heritage



Above: Sandhill Park after the fire © Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service

Enforcement Operations (cont.)

Orford Barn – Warrington, Grade II listed building. Cheshire Police and Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service with assistance from English Heritage to investigate and prosecute for arson, resulting in the total loss of the building.

Two 18 year old men who set fire to a Grade II listed barn in Orford in March 2012 were sentenced on Monday 3 June 2013. Joshua Ryan Johnson and Kelvin Buckley, both from Warrington, were sentenced to three and a half years detention each at Chester Crown Court after pleading guilty to the charge of committing arson recklessly at an earlier hearing.

Sentencing the pair, Recorder Mr Simon Killeen said: "You were both involved in destroying a large property by fire which you did deliberately, reckless as to whether life was endangered."

The fire was started on Monday 12 March 2012 just before 8.30pm. Firefighters arriving on the scene were confronted by a very serious and well developed fire within the building. At its height the fire was tackled by more than 30 firefighters and caused some £500,000 worth of damage.

Mark Pollard, a Community Fire Protection Officer in Warrington and also a Watch Manager at Birchwood Fire Station, was one of the first on the scene. He said: "This arson attack was of a very serious nature and has been particularly damaging to the local community and its heritage. Cheshire Fire and Rescue service takes all arson and deliberate fire activity very seriously. We welcome today's sentencing and we will continue to investigate occurrences robustly and work with our partners within Cheshire Police to ensure positive outcomes and ultimately reduce the level of this unacceptable activity within our community."

PC Jayne Drum, of Warrington Central Neighbourhood Policing Unit, said: "Arson is a serious crime and we hope that the sentence handed down to the two defendants serves as a warning to others that anyone involved in this type of crime will be caught and punished for their actions."

Anna Boxer, Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas at English Heritage in the North West provided an Impact Statement for the case. She said: "Buildings of special architectural and historic interest are a fragile, finite and irreplaceable resource. The fire last year resulted in the complete and total loss of this significant building, and so in the loss of an important part of Cheshire's history."

Crown Prosecution Service

Mark Holmes, Senior Crown Prosecutor, CPS East Midlands secured a conviction in a case of 'nighthawking' – a damaging heritage crime.



Mark Holmes successfully prosecuted the first case in the East Midlands under the banner of the Alliance to Reduce Crime against Heritage (ARCH). This was a case of 'nighthawking', a heritage crime involving illegal metal detecting at night and theft of historical artefacts. Nighthawking had been a particular problem in this part of Lincolnshire, as landowners complain of damage to land and crops caused by people digging holes, usually at night. More seriously, the digging was taking place near ancient sites and valuable historical artefacts were disappearing that the law, requires should be registered with the British Museum, in order to ensure that finds of significant interest can be exhibited publicly.

At Skegness Magistrates Court on 21 August, Kevin Lomas was found guilty of going equipped to steal and theft of eight of the items found at his home - four coins, two brooches, a mount and an enamel bead, valued at a total of £500. He was given a conditional discharge for 12 months, the stolen artefacts were forfeited, his metal detecting equipment was confiscated and he was ordered to pay £400 in court costs.

The case is an example of excellent partnership working between Mark and his colleagues at Lincolnshire Police and English Heritage, and also finds experts at the British Museum.

Since this case began, the local police team report that the incidence of these crimes in the area has decreased dramatically.

Mark said: "This prosecution has sent a very clear message to the nighthawking 'community' that this is not a harmless activity, but a criminal offence which robs the country of items of historical interest. Just as it is against the law to break into someone's house and steal valuables, so it is illegal to damage land and steal valuable historical artefacts. We want people to realise the seriousness of what they are doing, and the consequences awaiting them when they are caught. These thefts not only rob the country of the artefacts themselves, but we lose valuable knowledge that helps us understand our past and identify potential sites of archaeological interest." He added "This case was unusual and not straightforward to prosecute. However, thanks to joint working with the police and English Heritage, by the time the case came to court, the evidence against Mr Lomas was compelling."

Mark Harrison, National Policing and Crime Advisor for English Heritage's Heritage Crime Programme said: "Illicit metal detecting has been prosecuted before, but this is the first time we have taken such a co-ordinated approach, involving an expert lawyer, dedicated police investigators, finds experts and archaeologists. It sets a valuable template for future cases elsewhere in the country."

Rural Crime Campaign - new initiative to help fight rural crime

English Heritage joins forces with Sussex Crimestoppers, National Farmers Union and Sussex Police on a new campaign to help fight rural crime.

This two-pronged initiative consists of a video resource for colleges to use in lessons with sixth formers and a graphic storyboard for use throughout the wider community. Both urge the public to help to keep Sussex a safe place to live and work, protecting our rural way of life for generations to come.

Sixth formers are asked to lend their eyes and ears in a DVD that features victims, including young farmers, speaking out about the impact of rural crime. It will be used by schools liaison officers to engage pupils, along with a hard-hitting graphic storyboard featuring the many guises of rural crime, asking all of us to pass on information about crimes anonymously via Crimestoppers.

The storyboard will be distributed throughout Sussex and the video will be available online in the near future.



Above: Rural Crime storyboard (© Sussex Crimestoppers)

Working in partnership

Bestselling crime novelist and Sussex Crimestoppers co patron Peter James says: "In straitened financial times, as we are in, the countryside provides a soft target for villains. It is difficult for rural dwellers to protect outbuildings against determined thieves, and gardening and agricultural machinery are easily saleable for instant cash. Crimestoppers is helping the police to combat rural crime. We would like to hear from anyone who may have seen or heard something that they know is suspicious or unusual, but they may not wish to talk directly to police. We ask you to ring our national 24/7 telephone number: 0800 555 111 to pass on information about crimes anonymously or use our 'giving information' form on the Crimestoppers website."

Rural Crime Campaign - new initiative to help fight rural crime (cont.)

Preserving their anonymity

Chief Inspector Martin Sims, Sussex Police, explains: "The majority of rural crime takes place in isolated areas where witness appeals are unlikely to prove successful. However, people do talk and there's every chance that someone, somewhere knows something about the crimes that this campaign covers. If people don't want to talk directly to police or are concerned about preserving their anonymity, then Crimestoppers provide an excellent alternative method of contact. More and more people are concerned about the environment they live in and there's a genuine desire to report on campaign issues. The graphic storyboard covers all the issues we would like to hear about and the DVD backs it up and provides an awareness tool for use in schools."

More ears and eyes in the countryside

NFU vice president Adam Quinney comments: "Rural crime deprives farm businesses of valuable equipment and livestock, often resulting in significant losses and a reduction in productivity. The NFU is delighted to support this Sussex Crimestoppers initiative to help people of all ages identify suspicious or unusual activity and to report rural crime anonymously. By working in partnership with police and local communities, we can tackle the scourge of rural crime by engaging more eyes and ears in the countryside."

Increase community vigilance

Baroness Andrews, Chair of English Heritage said: "Heritage crime is not just a financial crime where profits and insurance companies suffer the only loss, although there is often a very significant financial cost as well. This is crime that erases history, threatens the vi-

English Heritage Publishes Guidance

In May 2013 English Heritage published a number of guidance notes:

Crime Prevention: A Guide for Owners, Tenants and Managers of Heritage Assets

Preventative Measures: A Summary

Risk: Quick Assessment Tool

Impact Statements

Interventions: Prosecution and Alternative Disposals.

All of these guidance notes can be downloaded from the English Heritage website for use by those with an interest in a heritage asset and those responsible for the prevention and enforcement of heritage crime. We hope you find them useful:

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications>

Conservation Bulletin - Heritage Crime Special

The recent edition of Conservation Bulletin (Issue 70 Summer 2013) has been dedicated to the subject of Heritage Crime.

Published twice a year, Conservation Bulletin is circulated free of charge to more than 15,000 conservation specialists, planners, opinion-formers and decision-makers throughout the UK and abroad.

Its purpose is to communicate the latest professional thinking alongside practical case studies gathered from across the public, private and voluntary sectors. Each issue focuses on a topical theme – from historic places of worship, via the heritage of the 20th century to the popular presentation of the past and the impacts of climate change. It also includes a regular roundup of the latest news and publication stories from across English Heritage and the English Heritage Archive.

Crime can instantly and devastatingly damage England's priceless cultural heritage. Its loss is felt by the owner, the communities who use, enjoy and learn from the place and the future generations whose inheritance it should have been. You will find the Heritage Crime Conservation Bulletin by following the link below:

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/conservation-bulletin-70/>



New Legislation – Metal Theft and Anti-social Behaviour

Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill 2013-14

The Bill seeks to introduce simpler, more effective powers to tackle anti-social behaviour that provide better protection for victims and communities. The proposed Community Trigger and Community Remedy will empower victims and communities, giving them a greater say in how agencies respond to complaints of anti-social behaviour and in out-of-court sanctions for offenders. The Bill will also tackle irresponsible dog ownership and the use of illegal firearms by gangs and organised criminal groups, strengthen the protection afforded to the victims of forced marriage, and enhance the professional capabilities and integrity of the police. The Bill has received its second reading and has moved to the Committee stage.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013

The Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 received Royal Assent on 28th February 2013 and is expected to come into force from 1st October 2013.

This Act repeals the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964 and Part 1 of Vehicles (Crime) Act 2001, creating a revised regulatory regime for the scrap metal recycling and vehicle dismantling industries. The Act maintains local authorities as the principal regulator but gives them the power to better regulate these industries by allowing them to refuse to grant a licence to 'unsuitable' applicants and a power to revoke licences if the dealer becomes 'unsuitable'.

The Act aims to raise trading standards across the scrap metal industry by requiring more detailed and accurate records of transactions to be kept. Scrap metal dealers will also be required to verify the identity of those selling metal to them. It creates the offence of buying scrap metal for cash

The Act incorporates the separate regulatory scheme for motor salvage operators under the Vehicles (Crime) Act 2001 into this new regime. This is to replace the current overlapping regimes for the vehicle salvage and scrap metal industries with a single regulatory scheme. The Act also revises the definition of 'scrap metal dealer' and 'scrap metal' to ensure they reflect the twenty-first century scrap metal industry.

Events

A programme of conferences, briefings and training sessions have been delivered during 2012/3.

Since March 2010, training has been delivered to almost 7,000 heritage practitioners, law enforcement officers and community volunteers, very often with local partnerships requesting the training.

Heritage Crime Awareness Briefings

Between April and October 2012 English Heritage delivered a series of successful Heritage Crime Awareness events around the country. These were aimed at member organisations of Community Safety Partnerships, local authority staff (such as archaeological and conservation officers), elected members of local authorities and parish councils, community groups and voluntary organisations working within the heritage sector.

Seven events were delivered from Manchester to Portsmouth; including an event in partnership with the London Assembly held in the iconic City Hall building. Over 300 delegates attended these events and examined issues such as “What is Heritage Crime?” which was emphasised by the use of case studies and real world examples, and also discussed some of the innovative ways it is being tackled.

Delegates were asked to give feedback on the events which resulted in really positive comments such as:

- *“My first event and a great eye opener. I found it informative, interesting and enthralling”*
- *“Invaluable session - one of the best so far as real focus on how to put things into practice”*
- *“Will be following up on this and encouraging my LPA to sign up to the MoU”*
- High energy, excellent opportunity for future work
- Excellent day and very worthwhile
- Excellent, especially good to hear “real life” examples from Cheshire West.

Mark Harrison, National Policing and Crime Adviser, has said: “The feedback and enthusiasm from the delegates has been beyond our expectations. We are now working hard to develop the new partnerships that have emerged as a result of the briefings.”

Events (cont.)

Heritage Crime Exhibition – The Collection Lincoln:

The Collection brings together an award winning archaeology museum and the region's premier art gallery, the Usher Gallery, in the heart of historic Lincoln.

In partnership with Lincolnshire Police, this small exhibition looked at the growing problem of heritage crime and the battle to control it

The exhibition, created in partnership with Lincolnshire Police explored some of the issues caused by crimes against heritage, and the steps being taken in Lincolnshire to stop them. The exhibition featured material confiscated in a recent high profile court case in which a 'nighthawker' (illegal metal detector user) was prosecuted, and examples of fake antiquities on sale to the public and mistakenly collected by the museum in the past.



Above: Heritage Crime exhibition logo (© Lincolnshire Police & The Collection, Lincoln)

University of Oxford, Department for Continuing Education

Policing the Past: Protecting the Future

Tuesday 04 June 2013

This one-day course provided an introduction to understanding and managing crime and anti-social behaviour within the historic environment, covering the legislative framework, partnership development, identifying the threats to heritage assets and their settings, preventative measures, and enforcement and interventions. It will provide participants with an awareness of working in a multi-disciplinary framework to prevent and investigate heritage crime and take appropriate enforcement action.



Left: Participants and Ian Marshall from Cheshire West & Chester Council taking part in "Policing the Past: Protecting the Future"

(© English Heritage)

Future events:

English Heritage together with Arsha Gosine, CPS Policy Advisor are planning a training day on heritage crime for the CPS Heritage and Wildlife Crime Coordinators in the new future. We continue to respond to any requests for specific training for local partnerships as and when required.



So what can you do as an ARCH member?

- If you are part of an organisation with enforcement powers, you can become a **signatory to the Heritage Crime Memorandum of Understanding**. If you would like to become a signatory or learn more about what becoming a signatory will mean for you then please contact us.

- **Set up a Key Individual Network (KIN) in your area.** A KIN is a community engagement mechanism advocated by the Association of Chief Police Officers which is now embedded in Neighbourhood Policing and partnership systems. It is a way of bringing intelligence and information to the attention of those agencies that can prevent damage and enforce the law against offenders. If you would like more information on how to set up a KIN in your area please let us know.

- **Provide intelligence about crimes affecting heritage assets.** Our research into the nature of the problem and how best to tackle it will continue, if you have any data on damage from crime, particularly data on the damage done by owners failing to apply for consents, we would be very happy to hear from you.

If you wish to discuss any of the above or have any other questions please email:

Mark Harrison, Policing and Crime Advisor, English Heritage
mark.harrison@english-heritage.org.uk
Twitter [@EHHeritageCrime](https://twitter.com/EHHeritageCrime)

Joanne Fisher, Legal Adviser, English Heritage
joanne.fisher@english-heritage.org.uk