



## Summer Patrols

The finer weather is fast approaching and we will soon see a rise in people enjoying the great outdoors. Two of the ELPARC priorities are water safety, and fire prevention, so look out for ELC countryside rangers, police and fire officers carrying out joint patrols over the coming months. We have already been to Yellowcraig and Tynninghame Links.

\*\*\*

We will be at the beach in North Berwick (outside the RNLI building) on Saturday the 18 June 2022 from 10am until 2pm to launch Drowning Prevention week, along with the RNLI and Coastguard, so come along and say hello.



All images: Police Scotland



SPARC attended the MSA Scot Sheep event held at Over Finlarg Farm, near Tealing, Dundee, on Wed 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022. They promoted SPARC and the local Partnerships Against Rural Crime and gave out prevention advice and requested people to sign up for Rural Watch. The stall was well attended and it is hoped this will continue as we head towards the Royal Highland Show at the end of the month followed by the Scottish Game Fair at the start of July. The photos show SPARCi the sheep with our NFUS colleagues.

## Water Safety —ELPARC Priority

Please be responsible and enjoy the seaside this summer and:

- Be aware of the dangers when in the sea, rip tides and currents can drag you far from shore.
- **Don't** use inflatables in the sea – these are designed for the pool and can be easily swept out.
- Never underestimate the current, temperature or depth when in the water.
- Check the tides and be aware of rip currents and how to swim out of them.

If you get in trouble in water, [float to live](#)

If you lose an inflatable at sea call the coast guard and inform them of the description and location it was lost at, as this can prevent a full scale, multi-agency search operation from being instigated.

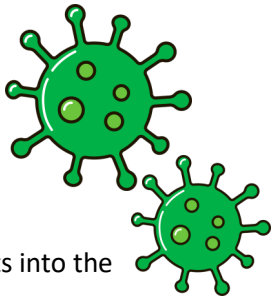
To get more information about how to enjoy sea sports and Scotland's coastline safely, get advice from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) and HM Coastguard, and general advice about water safety is also available from the Royal

Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA).

**If you see someone in difficulty or at risk at sea or along the coast always dial 999 and ask for the Coastguard.**

## Pick Up After Your Dog

At this time of year fields of grass are being cut for silage to feed cattle. If your dog poos on the grass and this gets into the silage it can have devastating consequences. Parasites, Neosporosis survive in the poo and if eaten can cause miscarriage in cows and neurological disease and death in sheep. This is why it is so important that you bag it up and dispose of it properly.



## Farm Traffic



Image: Stock

There is much activity going on in the fields during the summer months, this means there are lots of big agricultural vehicles out on the roads. Please be patient with them they are doing a very important job. Growing food to feed the nation. Only pass if you are 100% sure it is safe to do so, and never pass on a bend or near a junction.



# Rural Watch SCOTLAND

'Rural Watch Scotland' is an extension of the Neighbourhood Watch concept and a product of the 'Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime' (SPARC) designed for the communities of Scotland and aims to bring all the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch to rural communities irrespective of location, size or demographics.

The objectives of Rural Watch are to:

- Reduce crime and the fear of crime by providing the right information to the right people at the right time
- Encourage people to think about safety, and security for themselves, their neighbours and their community
- Improve community cohesion and wellbeing

In meeting these objectives, effective communication between partners and consistent engagement with rural communities is vital. Neighbourhood ALERT, a targeted two-way messaging system specifically designed in the UK for the purposes of community engagement will play a central role in providing consistent, locally relevant and inclusive communication with people living and working within a rural setting. This has seen the establishment of a local Scottish Neighbourhood ALERT administrator network across all areas of Police Scotland.

To sign up to receive alerts visit:

[www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk](http://www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk)

## Fire Prevention —ELPARC Priority

The Scottish Fire & Rescue Service have been busy working with local youth groups and high schools to educate young people on fire safety and the consequences of fire related anti-social behaviour. They have also worked on a 1:1 basis with youths who have been involved with fire setting, educating them through the Firesetters Intervention program. SFRS will continue with education and diversionary work throughout the summer months via local youth groups and summer camps.

Joint patrols with Police and the East Lothian Countryside Rangers will continue throughout the summer months at popular areas for camping and camp fires. It is important never to light a fire in the woodland, or in dry grassy areas, especially when the ground is dry and the risk of the fire spreading is heightened.





## Network Rail in partnership with Crimestoppers

In 2022, independent charity Crimestoppers Scotland will be partnering for the third consecutive year with Network Rail to share a series of crime campaigns.

Crimestoppers is the only charity that enables the Scottish public to give information 100% anonymously.

In July the charity will be running a rural crime campaign – to raise awareness of the key rural crimes affecting the rural and environmental industries and to help improve reporting.

The campaign will be shared via social media platforms and officer from Police Scotland and SPARC partners will be equipped with postcards, banners and pop ups to display in hot-spot areas

\*\*\*\*\*

Then in October the charity will be supporting Police Scotland's County Lines intensification week.

The campaign aims to raise awareness of County Lines, which is when criminals expand their drug networks to Scottish cities and towns, bringing serious criminal behaviour such as violence, exploitation and abuse. The term County Lines refers to the use of a single telephone number to order illegal drugs, operated from outside the local area.

This is having a massive impact on Scotland's towns and cities and also on vulnerable young people and adults who are being exploited. Young people often transport cash and drugs all over the country, so that the criminals behind them can remain detached and are less likely to be caught.

Many travel by public transport, which is why Network Rail has pledged their support by raising awareness of the problem and are encouraging staff and passengers to become familiar with the signs of exploitation.

