

## Dartmoor Statistics for the last Six Years

### RTA's

2013	71
2014	78
2015	82

I have no further breakdown of the figures above as I did not set up Speedwatch until 2016. It's plain to see the figures are already moving upwards.

2016        **TOTAL**    188 Animals involved in RTAs

**Total dead 133    Total injured 31**

Ponies/Foals .. .. .	32 killed	9 injured
Cows/calves .. .. .	5 killed	5 injured
Sheep/lambs .. ..	123 killed	14 injured

---

2017        **TOTAL**    164 Animals involved in RTAs

**Total dead 133    Total injured 31**

Ponies/Foals .. .. .	21 killed	11 injured
Cows/calves .. .. .	5 killed	5 injured
Sheep/lambs .. ..	107 killed	15 injured

---

2018        **TOTAL**    191 Animals involved in RTAs

**Total dead 158    Total injured 33**

<u>Ponies/ foals</u>	32 dead	8 injured
<u>Sheep/lambs</u>	117 dead	13 injured
<u>Cows/calves</u>	9 dead	12 injured

---

2019        **TOTAL**    179 Animals involved in RTAs

**Total dead 137    Total injured 42**

<u>Ponies/foals</u>	30 dead	18 survived
<u>Sheep/lambs</u>	105 dead	18 survived
<u>Cows/calves</u>	2 dead	6 survived

---

**90 Dog attacks on livestock**

2020        **TOTAL**    142 Animals involved in RTAs

**Total dead 113    Total injured 29**

<u>Ponies/foals</u>	13 dead	12 survived
---------------------	---------	-------------

<u>Sheep/lambs</u>	94 dead	14 survived
<u>Cows/calves</u>	5 dead	3 survived

## 78 Dog attacks on livestock

---

**2021            TOTAL    117 Animals involved in RTAs**

**Total dead 89 Total injured 28**

<u>Ponies/foals</u>	16 dead	8 survived
<u>Sheep/lambs</u>	67 dead	12 survived
<u>Cows/calves</u>	6 dead	8 survived

## 108 Dog attacks on livestock

---

**Total RTA's over the last 6 years = 981 Animals**

**Total Deaths = 790**

**Total Injuries = 191**

**Total Dog Attacks = 276 (3 years)**

These statistics are horrendous and the problem needs to be addressed. While speedwatch can only be out during daylight hours it means for most of the time the animals are on their own. We will shortly be introducing Fluorescent collars for the Ponies and Cows, these are not suitable for the Sheep. An extra VAS camera will also help but this will only tell us the speeds of the vehicles not who they were. Just before covid a speed of 109 was recorded on one of the VAS cameras but it did not help to deter or catch the individual who was responsible for this offence.

We are not sure of how many animals are on the moors at any one time. It may be this number varies considerably from year to year. The above numbers are bad enough on their own but this does not take in the number of animals who are injured and wander off into the hills to die a slow and painful death.

### **Dog Attacks**

Over the last three years the Livestock Protection Officer has also been collecting this data. Whilst there is only so much that can be done for RTA's in my opinion Dog Attacks are entirely preventable. I myself have a dog and would not dream of letting her off the lead on the moors. Even if I cannot see any animals that does not mean they are not there. Recently DNPA revisited their local plan and the bylaws. It looks as if they have accepted a watered down approach and said 'All dogs should be kept on a lead when animals are present'. The moors are a working farm and the only free running dogs should belong to the farmer. This is not a popular approach but 276 Dog attacks in three years in a terrible fact. Most of the animals will have died if not from their injuries then from the trauma. Surely more must be done, I do not blame the dogs, there are no bad dogs just bad owners

## Report from Cllr Manning attending Speedwatch Seminar

The audience was made up of about 50 Speedwatch Co-ordinators from all around Devon and Cornwall.

Yesterday, 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022 I attended the above event in Exeter. It was put on by Devon and Cornwall Police and attended by PCC Alison Hernandez. It was a full day with an introduction by Superintendent Adrian Leisk who has overall responsibility for Road safety in Devon, Cornwall and Dorset. We had updates from the Speed Reduction Teams, Operation Snap and what is happening in the back office with regards to identifying patterns and gathering intelligence.

We looked at the structure which in the past has been the police and Speedwatch as an add on. Part of Alison Hernandez Police and Crime Bill is to bring Speedwatch into the fold and make it a core part of Road Safety. They are taking on an extra 28 staff consisting of both on the road and back office support to enable them to really start to tackle the number of road deaths and reduce them over the next 10 years down to the point of elimination or close.

It is intended that many more speedwatch sessions will be attended by police speed detection officers on Motorbikes so that when the driver ignores us and accelerates past at 71mph as one did this week he will be rather upset when instead of a speedwatch warning letter he actually gets a fine and points.

We had a case study involving a very high profile case that was responsible for the creation of Keira and Max's Law which is the law around organ donation stating you have to opt out instead of opt in. This has already saved many lives. The work that goes into identifying the cause of an RTA is incredible and will often take 12 to 18 months. This story was heart wrenching and not for the faint hearted.

I had the chance to speak to Alison during lunch and as well as thanking her for the funding we secured for the collars, etc which I know she had been very enthusiastic about I was also able to talk to her about Speedwatch on Dartmoor and how it was different to most other areas. In Newton abbot they are concerned with ensuring cars do not go past a school at more than 30mph or near shops which is important for keeping people safe and very commendable whereas we are constantly trying to prevent deaths which in our case seem to happen on average every 3 or 4 days. When I told her how many animals we have lost on the moors over the last few years she was shocked. Shocked by the number and shocked that no one had actually put that fact in front of her. She has asked me to send to her more details on the RTA's that we are aware of and she will put this into her plan as another strand they need to look at. The problem has been that each RTA will have been dealt with by a different police response if one is needed or it might just be the farmer and the vet or maybe Karla and the farmer. The only person really collating this information is Karla, the Dartmoor Protection Officer. Its not something the police have been collecting. I explained to her that I wanted that to change. I will keep you updated.

We had presentations from various groups about their role with regards to traffic safety and at the end of the day had the chance to look over and get into the various police vehicles. Normally this is mainly reserved for those that have been arrested. I got into a camera van and had it all explained to me, I sat in an unmarked police car and a traffic police car all very hi tec and got to look at the fully liveried Lotus Evora they had there. I was told I could sit in it but had I done that I would still be there today. FYI the Lotus is lent to the police by Lotus to raise awareness and does not cost the police anything at all. I followed that with a good look around a two wheel office which was a 1200cc BMW motorbike which was incredible.

I felt it was an event well worth my attending as it brought me face to face with more practitioners and put faces to names. Lets hope this beefed up approach has the correct effect.