

## Monthly PCSO Newsletter July 2021.



Hello there. I am your local Police Community Support Officer for your area. For those of you that don't know me, my name is PCSO Katherine Richards, but most people call me Kate.



This report is a general overview of what I have been doing this month and gives crime prevention advice. I tend to put it out at the beginning of each month.

My report goes out to the Parish Councils, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators, and any other members of the community who may be interested in receiving it. This can also be shared on your parish websites and your social media sites. **Please share.**

I would just like to let you know that I will be your point of contact for your town and parishes.

The areas that I cover are **Tenterden, St. Michaels, Rolvenden, Newenden, Weald South and Isle of Oxney areas.**

Crime statistics can be found at: <https://www.police.uk/>

Alternatively, Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) send out regular updates in relation to crimes that have happened in the Ashford area. If you wish to receive these updates directly then please contact Andrew Judd who is the Volunteer and Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer. His contact details are as follows:

Tel: Email: Address:

01233 896151

[andrew.judd@kent.police.uk](mailto:andrew.judd@kent.police.uk)

Ashford Police Station, Tufton Street,  
Ashford





It's been another busy month, and it was lovely to see our communities starting to get out and about and having a little bit of normality. The Food Festival was in Tenterden this month on the recreation ground, which was well supported. Other parishes have been doing their bit as well.

With more coming up over the next few months. I will try and attend as many as I can depending on operational needs.

**Step 3** restrictions have remained in place.

There is currently a 4-week pause at Step 3 of the roadmap and it is expected that England will move to **Step 4 on 19 July**.

The government will continue to monitor the data and the move to Step 4 will be confirmed one week in advance.

From 21 June you can have more guests at weddings, civil partnerships and commemorative events following a funeral depending on venue capacity and how many can be safely accommodated with social distancing.

Also, the rules on care home visits have changed.

Please use the following link for the most update information:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

All adults in England can now book COVID-19 vaccinations

## Coronavirus (COVID-19)



Hands



Face



Space



Fresh air

**Coronavirus restrictions remain in place across the country, including for people who have been vaccinated. In England:**

- You can meet indoors in a group of up to 6 people or a group of any size from 2 households
- You can meet outside in a group of up to 30 people
- Work from home if you can and travel safely
- If you have symptoms get a test and stay at home

Some of the Crime figures for the months.

<b>Crime Type</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Property Stole / damaged</b>	<b>Crime reference</b>
<b>Burglary</b>	Isle of Oxney	Ham Green area of Wittersham	02/06/21 2100 hrs		Generator, 3 x empty jerry cans, 1 x jerry can full of petrol and a trailer stolen from business premises	46/95502/21
<b>Theft from motor vehicle</b>	Tenterden and St Michaels	The Pavement area of St Michaels	01/06/21 2000 hrs	02/06/21 0800 hrs	White BMW Sport 116 M Stolen <b>L16 LLX</b>	46/94814/21
<b>Burglary</b>	Tenterden South	Longfield area of Tenterden	05/06/21 0001 hrs	05/06/21 1539 hrs	Documentation and cash stolen	46/96508/21
<b>Damage to Motor Vehicle</b>	Tenterden St. Michael's	Grange Road, St. Michaels	05/06/2021 00:45	05/06/2021 00:50	Smashed windscreen, damaged wing mirror and dents on panels and wing	46/96921/21
<b>Theft of a motor vehicle</b>	Tenterden North	No further details	23/06/2021 00:00		White Ford Transit Van <b>BL13 CY2</b>	46/108975/21
<b>Damage</b>	Tenterden St. Michael's	Ashford Road, St. Michaels	12/06/2021 00:01	12/06/2021 16:54	Boiler room door	46/102335/21
<b>Theft of a motor vehicle</b>	Tenterden St. Michael's	Ashford Rd, Tenterden	29/06/2021 15:30	29/06/2021 16:00	Black VW Amarok	46/113929/21

With several vehicle crimes not just in our areas this month, but across the Ashford district please can I remind vehicle owners to be vigilant and follow the following crime prevention advice.

## Help prevent vehicle crime

Vehicle crime often happens when people leave their belongings on display for others to see.

Remember, it only takes a few seconds for a thief to break in to your car or vehicle and steal your property.

Follow these simple guidelines to reduce the risk of you becoming a victim of this type of crime:

- remove all valuables including portable sat nav systems, mobile phones and laptops, even if you're only away from your vehicle for a few minutes
- clean suction marks from your windscreen if using a portable sat nav – these show a potential thief that it might still be inside
- don't hide valuables in the boot or glove compartment as these are the first places a thief will look
- thieves steal number plates to use in other crimes, you can fit tamper proof number plate screws to help prevent this.

Has anyone tried to sell you a second-hand sat nav system or other electronic equipment in unusual circumstances? If so, you can report a non-urgent crime online [www.kent.police.uk/report](http://www.kent.police.uk/report). You can also call Kent Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**.

Visit the Kent Police website [www.kent.police.uk](http://www.kent.police.uk) for more crime prevention information and details of your local police station.



**Kent  
Police**

#### Contacting Kent Police

Report a non-urgent crime online [www.kent.police.uk/report](http://www.kent.police.uk/report)

Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 [www.kent.police.uk/contact](http://www.kent.police.uk/contact)

In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call **999**

If deaf or speech impaired, text 'police' and your message to **60066**

[www.kent.police.uk](http://www.kent.police.uk)   

Some of my colleagues and I had some additional training on the operating of our hand held Speed Laser handsets, so that we can be more help out in our areas with our Community Speed Watch Teams.

The Rolvenden Team have been out a lot this month, especially on nights when the local pub has been holding its Bike nights.

I would like to report that none of the vehicles speeding and reported via speed watch have been Motor bikes on these evenings. We have visited with our traffic colleagues and the pub is happy for us to visit anytime, which we will continue to keep an eye on. I am happy to say that the pub landlord and his team have also been working with the parish council. Covid regulations and rules have been followed.



 **Kent Police Ashford**  @KentPoliceAsh · 2s ...

This weekend three of our PCSO's from Ashford CSU completed the speed laser operator training. Out in #Shadoxhurst @KentSpeedwatch. We will be out and about in your areas. #ReduceSpeed. KR



The image contains two side-by-side photographs. The left photo shows a PCSO from behind, wearing a bright yellow high-visibility jacket and a blue cap, standing on a road. A hand cursor is visible over the jacket. The right photo shows the same PCSO from a side angle, standing next to a dark grey SUV on the same road. The background shows a residential street with trees and houses under an overcast sky.



I have also been out in Appledore conducting speed checks, where we have received complaints about speeding motorists especially on sunny weekends. You will see me out and about in other parishes this month, where we have also received complains. Please note I can not be everywhere but will try and help where I can.



## **Crime Prevention Advice.**

Some crime prevention tips from our Crime Prevention PCSO Laura Langridge. If you need any further advice, please let me know and myself and Laura can visit.

This month I have tailored the advice to **Metal thefts** in particular **Copper Cables**:

Metal thefts are on the increase, the chosen metals that holds the most value are raw copper, aluminium and lead. The most popular venues for metal thefts has traditionally been construction sites, with pickings for the offenders due to the amount of cabling that is in the process of being laid. However, most recently we have seen copper cable also being stolen from homes, farmyards, churches, shops, historical buildings, and unused commercial and domestic buildings. It is not uncommon for the replacement cabling to be stolen only days later.

Various ways to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of this crime:

- Consider installing plastic pipes to replace copper and other metal pipes

- Access to where pipes are stored should be restricted i.e. removing climbing aids (wheelie bins)
- Consider marking products. This can be done either chemically, forensically or physically (stamping)
- Installation of CCTV cameras with alarm detection
- Anti-climb paint can be used on guttering and drainpipes (needs to be applied above 2.4 metres from the ground and must be clearly signposted to comply with the Occupiers Liability Act 1984)
- New / unused cables to be kept in secure storage containers (locks, CCTV, alarmed)

Please see [www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com) for more ways improve the security of buildings and their immediate surroundings. Secured by Design's (SBD's) product based accreditation scheme – the Police Preferred Specification - provides a recognised standard for all security products that can deter and reduce crime.

## **Fraud**

### **Update from Kent Police's Prevent & Protect Fraud Officer**



### **PayPal Scam**

Trading Standards have received evidence of texts to members of the public which purport to be from the online payment platform PayPal. The texts impersonate official messages informing the recipient that someone has logged into their account. They then ask the recipient to tap a link which takes you to a fraudulent website, which is under the control of the fraudsters which requests login details, supposedly for verification and “(to) secure your PayPal account”.



## Preventing fraud

Together,  
let's stop  
scammers.



### Remember, ABC:



**never Assume**



**never Believe**



**always Confirm**

Get the latest  
scam advice:



@KentPoliceECU

The fraudsters will use this information to gain access to your PayPal account.

Remember the golden rule, **Never** click on links contained within Text messages or emails.

If you believe you may have fallen victim to this scam, then contact your

bank immediately and then report it to Action Fraud at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or calling 0300 123 2040

Always forward any scam text messages to 7726.



Take Five

@TakeFive

## How to spot investment scams:

! You are contacted out of the blue about an opportunity

! High reward with no risk

! You are pressurised to making a decision with no time to consider the investment

Check the Financial Conduct Authority register for regulated firms ✓

## Mullet Over

In April 2020, the suspicious email reporting service (SERS) was launched and in just a year received 5.8 million suspicious emails from the public. This has led to the removal of over 43,000 scams 84,000 malicious websites. To

support this, and raise awareness, Action Fraud have been running a campaign about phishing emails and you may have seen the National Press release on this and their messages on social media. I wanted to use

the opportunity to remind people that it is worthwhile forwarding suspicious emails to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk) as without your help, we will not be able to remove these scams and malicious websites.

Remember if you get an email asking you to click on a link, don't as it is more than likely to be a scam. Always apply ABC and never Assume or Believe an email is genuine and is necessary always Confirm.

If you believe you may have fallen victim to a phishing scam, then contact your bank immediately and then report it to Action Fraud at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or calling 0300 123

2040

## Mobile Phone Upgrade Scam – 300 Victims across the UK & 86K lost

How it works –

- Victims are offered early handset upgrades, or new contracts, at significant discounts. Once customers have been convinced that the deals are genuine and agree to proceed, suspects then ask for their online mobile account credentials, including logins, address and bank account details.
- Suspects then place orders with genuine companies on behalf of victims, however select a different handset
- to that requested and have it shipped to the customer's address.
- Upon receipt, suspects assure victims that this has been an error and instruct them to 'return' the handset to a different address not affiliated to the mobile company. These addresses are usually residential.
- Upon intercepting the 'returned' handsets, the suspects cease contact and victims find themselves stuck with no phone and liable for the entirety of a new contract taken out in their name.

What you need to do –

- Cold calls about mobile upgrades and contracts - If you're unsure that the person calling you is an official representative of the company they claim to be from, hang up and do not reveal any personal information.
- Only contact your mobile network provider on a number you know to be correct. For example, 191 for Vodafone customers, 150 for EE customers, 333 for Three customers, 202 for O2 customers, 4455 for Tesco Mobile, 789 for Virgin Mobile and 150 for Sky Mobile.
- If you receive a device that you did not order or expect, contact the genuine sender immediately. The details for this will be within the parcel.
- NEVER post a device directly to a given address. All genuine Mobile Network Operators would send out a jiffy bag for you to return without you incurring additional cost.

If you believe you may have fallen victim to this scam, then report it to Action Fraud at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or calling 0300 123 2040.

## From our colleagues at Kent Protect - Asda and Morrison's "out for delivery" text scam"

How the scam works –

One of the fake texts (shown below) claims 'your Asda order is out for delivery' while another pretending to be from Morrison's claims to offer details of your grocery order.

The links will lead you to a webpage that apparently allows you to track your order and view a delivery note. However, any details you put in this webpage is used by fraudsters to target your bank account.

It is a scam, please do not click on any links and forward any scam texts to 7726.

If you believe you have fallen victim to this scam, then contact your Bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or calling 0300 123 2040.

**Preventing fraud**

Together, let's stop scammers. 

**Remember, ABC:**

-  never Assume
-  never Believe
-  always Confirm

Get the latest scam advice:  [@KentPoliceECU](https://twitter.com/KentPoliceECU)

 **ALERT** 

**ASDA & MORRISONS TEXT SCAM**

## **Other News Stories involving Kent Police**

### **Two arrested following Tenterden shop burglary**

Two suspects have been arrested following a burglary at a shop in Tenterden.

Kent Police was called at 12.06am on Monday 28 June 2021 following a report that a shop in the town's High Street had been burgled.

Officers from Kent Police's Tactical Operations Unit later saw a vehicle linked to the report entering a tunnel at the Dartford Crossing.

The vehicle failed to stop when requested to do so and was brought to a controlled stop near Junction 29 of the M25 in Essex.

A 43-year-old man from north London and a 26-year-old man from west London have been arrested on suspicion of burglary and both remain in custody while enquiries continue.

Anyone who witnessed the burglary, or who has CCTV or dashcam footage which may assist officers, is urged to call Kent Police on 01843 222289, quoting reference 46/111678/21.

You can also contact the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111 or by using their anonymous online form.

### **Reminder to dog owners following sheep attacks near Tenterden**

Dog owners are reminded to take responsibility for their pets after a report of sheep being attacked near Tenterden.

Kent Police received a report of sheep-worrying in the Wittersham area on Sunday 30 May 2021. At least one lamb was badly injured.

Officers from the Rural Task Force are investigating, and a witness has described seeing three men with two dogs, a whippet/lurcher and a terrier type dog, running from a field next to the River Rother along The Street in Ham Green.

It was also reported that the men threw objects at a member of the public, who was not injured.

The men are described as follows:

- Male 1: White, around 20-years-old, wearing a dark coloured hooded top with a tick on the back and jeans.
- Male 2: White, aged around 20-years-old, wearing a baseball cap and hooded top and jeans.
- Male 3: White, aged around 20-years-old and wearing a hooded top with jeans.

PC Dan Perry said: 'We are urging all dog owners walking in the countryside to keep their dogs on leads around any livestock. Please follow signs and stick to footpaths, as they are there to protect you and your dog, and to make your walk safe for all.'

'People should report any attacks by dogs on livestock to Kent Police, either via our website, or by calling 101, or 999 if a crime is in progress.'

'Anyone with information regarding this incident should call Kent Police on 01843 222289 quoting 30-1038.'

Facts about sheep-worrying:

- Under the Animals Act 1971, a person acting to protect livestock may be able to kill or injure a dog that he/she reasonably believes is 'worrying' without incurring any criminal or civil liability.
- As a dog owner or a person for the time being in charge of a dog, you could be committing an offence if your pet worries livestock on agricultural land.
- Worrying includes attacking or chasing livestock in a way that might reasonably be expected to cause injury or suffering or loss.
- It can also be an offence to have a dog in a field or enclosed space where there are sheep when the dog is not on a lead or under close control.
- 

### **Kent motorists warned about the dangers of not wearing a seatbelt**

Police in Kent will be working with partner agencies to support a national campaign aimed at reducing the number of people killed or seriously hurt on the county's roads.

The National Police Chiefs' Council seatbelt campaign started on Monday 31 May and runs until Sunday 13 June 2021 and will see officers from the Roads Policing Unit target the county's hotspot areas for collisions where the lack of seatbelt was a factor.

The aim of the operation is to encourage drivers to comply with the seatbelt legislation to save lives and prevent injuries.

It has been recognised that in a crash you are twice as likely to die if you don't wear a seatbelt and there is evidence to suggest that people are less likely to use seatbelts on short or familiar journeys, putting them at serious risk of injury in a collision.

Drivers caught without a seatbelt face on-the-spot fines of £100. If prosecuted, the maximum fine is £500.

Chief Inspector Elena Hall from the Roads Policing Unit said: 'Kent Police is working with the Kent County Council Road Safety Team and the Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership to educate road users of the importance of wearing seatbelts.'

'Mobile camera vans will be out supporting the campaign, detecting seatbelt offences as well as looking out for excess speed and mobile phone use. Drivers and passengers who fail to wear seatbelts in the front and back of vehicles are breaking the law.

'By not wearing a seatbelt you are risking a fine, but much more seriously you are risking your own safety and could be seriously injured if involved in a collision. The driver's responsibility includes ensuring young passengers are safe and secure.'

Kent County Council Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport David Brazier said: 'Seatbelts have been compulsory for 38 years and whether you put it on or not should never be questioned.

'Unfortunately, there are still instances where seatbelts are not worn – it is such a simple thing to do, yet if you don't, the dangers to you and any passengers with you, can be catastrophic.

'We recently did a survey and found one in five passengers said they did not always wear seatbelts in the back of a vehicle; one in every 10 drivers said they did not always wear a seatbelt.

'Every time you choose not to do so, you are taking a huge, potentially life-changing risk. I hope this action by our partners at Kent Police will help it click with those that choose not to wear one.'

## **REPORTING CRIMES**

As always, if you need to make a report to Kent Police (that does not require immediate assistance) then please ideally use the website in the first instance. There is a 'live chat' facility which allows you to communicate with our control room in real time without having to speak to someone. There is also a simple online tool where you can contact us about an incident or tell us about something which you think we should know. Please find below the link to the website:

<https://www.kent.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/>

Crimes are not to be reported to me via e-mail please as not always on duty.

Police do not monitor community Facebook, Twitter, neighbour next door apps etc...and these are not the correct way to report things going on, otherwise we are unaware and unable to help you in your community.

## Contacting Kent Police

-  Find your answer online. Browse our A to Z question finder [www.kent.police.uk/askthepolice](http://www.kent.police.uk/askthepolice)
-  Email your local policing team. Visit [www.kent.police.uk/yourarea](http://www.kent.police.uk/yourarea)
-  For non-urgent issues, call **101**
-  In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger, call **999**
-  If deaf or speech impaired, text 'police' and your message to **60066**
-  Find us on Facebook
-  Follow us on Twitter @kent\_police or find your local account at [www.kent.police.uk/yourarea](http://www.kent.police.uk/yourarea)
-  Follow us on Instagram @kent\_police

 Kent Police [www.kent.police.uk](http://www.kent.police.uk)



**Kate Richards PCSO 46059656**

**Community Safety Unit | Ashford Police Station | East Division**

**Please do not use this email to report incidents.**

**Please follow us on Twitter @kentpoliceash or visit our website <https://www.kent.police.uk/>**

**For a non-emergency please report online or contact 101 and in case of an emergency call 999.**

**<https://www.kent.police.uk/ro/report/>**