

Your Local Police Newsletter

July 2023

Dear Parishes,

Please find the monthly update from the Beat officers for your Parishes.

This month has seen ASB awareness week that involved the Beat officers/ CSU and several partner agencies. The week ran from the 3rd- 9th of July. It incorporated two Environmental Visual audits, one at the start of the week in Hart Dyke Road, Swanley where we had local officer, local councillor, West Kent Housing, KCC Warden, Probation and Sevenoaks district council present for a walk around of the area- identifying issues and engaging with the public. The second EVA was at Caxton Close Hartley, where again Police, KCC warden, West Kent Housing and Sevenoaks District CSU were present.

Another day was spent visiting repeat victims of reported ASB and locations by officers for reassurance. Two more days saw partner stands at Swanley Market and Sevenoaks at Blighs promoting ways of dealing with ASB. Detached youth workers spent an evening in Edenbridge supported by an officer.

Swanley & Local areas

- The Swanley PACT meeting was attended where concerns were raised by a healthy turnout of councillors. Legislation around catapults, e-scooters was discussed. It has been determined that E- scooters are legal if they are insured to be on the road but you cannot obtain insurance for privately owned e-scooters – so therefore they will be illegal. As also discussed in the meeting, was around proportionately dealing with offences committed by juveniles so so education around this type of offence would be a starting point.
- Problems with youths using catapults in the town and local park is on our radar, again legislation does not support easy actions for the Police as being in possession of a catapult is not an offence- it's what you do with it.
- PC Beck attended Swanley parish council meeting where it was raised about youths using catapults in town and local park. Have encouraged that this gets reported.
- PC Beck attended Hextable parish council meeting. Issues were raised about nuisance youths attending Heritage centre car park being anti social. Have encouraged that this gets reported to police when it is happening so that we can monitor the calls and try and get police presence. CCTV has been put up by the council covering the car park to hopefully get images of the individuals and vehicle registrations.
- Wilko in Swanley have had an increase in shopliftings. On Saturday 22nd July 3 offenders were arrested close to the shop by officers and all charged with shoplifting.

New Ash Green & Local areas

Local officer PC Mahoney and Sgt Savill attended a residents forum to listen to concerns along with Kelly Webb from the CSU. The main issue was undoubtedly cars gathering and the occupants using NOS gas and causing ASB. Possession of Nitrous oxide gas is not an offence in itself. Patrol has been directed around the highlighted areas of Foxbury and Lamabardes.

We have had numerous reports of off road bikes being used in and around Knatts Valley and Fawkham. Patrols have attended several of these calls only to see the bikes ride off across country. We will continue to attend and work with landowners to prevent easy access to their land. Members of the public are urged to continue reporting incidents especially if registered vehicles are involved that have transported the bikes to the area.

Sgt Savill attended the Ash Cum Ridley focus group with Kelly Webb from CSU. Issues raised were as above.

Sevenoaks & Local areas

Engagement Events:



Lady Boswells School Talk:

PC Hubbard and PCSO Wilders visited Lady Boswells School to educate children on the role of police. The interactive talk aimed to foster a positive relationship between young people and police encouraging open dialogue and questions.

Rockdale Home Talk:

As part of "My Community Voice" input PC Hubbard addressed concerns related to fraud at Rockdale Home. Residents had the opportunity to voice worries and receive guidance on safeguarding against fraudulent activities.

Sevenoaks District Seniors Action Forum AGM:

PC Hubbard and PS Savill attended the AGM to actively listen to concerns from the senior community. The concept of an Independent Advisory Group was discussed, and new members were nominated, highlighting community involvement in shaping policing strategies.

ASB Stand during ASB Awareness Week:

In collaboration with the council PC Hubbard set up an Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) awareness stand, engaging with the local community. Residents discussed safety concerns and enjoyed freebies provided by police and the council.

ASB at Bat and Ball Community Centre:

Bat and Ball community centre faced several ASB and criminal issues in July. In one incident police were able to identify 13 involved individuals, taking action and issuing ASB sanctions to address the situation.

Quarry Trespassing Incidents:

Nuisance youths trespassed at the nearby quarry in Bat and Ball. Police are working with the quarry management to monitor the situation and ensure safety throughout the summer.

Homeless Individual Near Knole park:

Reports of a suspicious homeless male near St. Nicholas Church and Knole Park were addressed following numerous calls from members of the public. Police determined no threat to the community and referred him to the homeless team in Sevenoaks for support.

The Vine Monitoring:

Police are actively monitoring The Vine over summer. Get the latest updates via the MCV link:

<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/93581>

Crime:

Attempted Burglaries in Seal/Sevenoaks:

Recent spate of attempted burglaries in and around Seal/Sevenoaks. For details, check the MCV link:


<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/96009>

Retail Crime Reduction:

Success in securing a Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) at court against a prolific offender. The CBO now bans her from Waitrose and M and S, Sevenoaks for 3 years, deterring her from further criminal activity.

Shoplifting Arrests and CCTV Identification:

PC Hubbard and PCSO Wilders have been actively combating shoplifting, resulting in arrests and identification through CCTV images. Police continue to work with businesses and partners to reduce crime. For more detailed crime figures and updates, visit the Kent Police website under "Your Area"

Stay safe and vigilant!  **Your sincerely PC HUBBARD**

Westerham & Local areas

PC WILSON has attended a number of meetings within his area meeting with councillors and the public discussing local issues within there area. Plans for speed monitoring opportunities have been discussed and looking at seeking this opportunity to make the roads a safer place for all residence. PC WILSON also attended Westerham with the licence officers from the West division to pay a joint vist between CSU and Licencing to make sure premises are adhering to the licence agreements.

Edenbridge & Local areas

Several reports for vulnerable adults being exploited by local drug users have been attended and welfare checks and assessments completed. Working with housing we will endeavour to protect these persons and make sure the relevant refferals to social services are made.

Several reports of suspisous behaviour at the NHS Medical centre building site where by the CCTV cameras were disconnected and damage caused to the hoarding. Working hard to ID the suspects and enquiries are on-going.

Calls to the control room:

- Cowden and Hever: 19 calls from member of the public, 4 recorded crimes.
- Edenbridge South and West: 72 calls from member of the public, 53 recorded crime.
- Leigh and chiddingstone causeway: 29 calls from member of the public, 10 recorded crimes.
- Penshurst, chiddingstone and Fordcombe: 18 calls from members of the public, 5 recored crimes.
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West Kingsdown , Eynsford, Shoreham, Otford & Kemsing

Nuisance motorbikes being reported at the rear of Hever Avenue and surrounding area. High visibility patrolling has taken place – nothing of note. Local Officer will be liaising with Rural Task Force to arrange ‘days of action’ unterlsing Kent Police Bike Team and Drones to tackle the issue.

Local Officer has held a couple of meetings with Eynsford Parish, Riverside Association, local businesses and residents who raised concerns about ASB on the ford, particularly when the weather is good. Increased patrols in the area and residents encourage to report issues at the time to police.

Over the next few weeks local officer will be holding coffee meetings to promote My Community Voice and discuss any issues or concerns with residents.

Crime Prevention & General Advice

Please keep us updated on any forthcoming meeting events in your communities. Although low on numbers we will still strive to attend these events.

Seasonal reports of bikes being used off road are being made across the district. If you witness these types of incidents, please call them in. If possible, obtain any photos/CCTV. Often the bikes are driven to locations to be used if this is the case try and obtain the registration of the vehicles.

For landowners, please make sure clear signage is up prohibiting the use of bikes on your land and make sure that access points are secure or offer deterrents to bike users.

If you want local alerts to your area and to be able to reply with any relevant information please sign up below.

[My Community Voice Kent: Home Page](#)



Is there a speedwatch group in your area that is now dormant? Would you like help to set up a new one or revitalise an old one. Contact speedwatch www.communityspeedwatch.org or e-mail Sevenoaks CSU csu.sevenoaks@kent.police.uk for assistance.

