

Your Local Police Newsletter

November 2023

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

Swanley & Local areas

PC 15621 SHIPLEY is your new beat/ward officer for Swanley and Hextable, PC SHIPLEY has been a PC for nearly 4 years, first covering Tonbridge & Tunbridge Wells on local policing before moving to Swanley August 2022. PC SHIPLEY took over the role from PC 14930 BECK officially on Monday 13th November 2023. PC SHIPLEY would like to thank PC BECK for her time as the Swanley and Hextable beat officer and I hope you all join me in hoping she enjoys her new role.

Over the last 2 weekends there have been 6 proactive arrests around drink and drug driving, some have been charged and bailed to court and some bailed pending on drink/drug blood or urine results – helping to keep Kent roads safer. The up and coming month of December will see Kent Police increasing the awareness around drink/drug drive as we now start to approach the festive period.

Officers and colleagues had a successful Violence and Women and Girls (VAWG) event walking in and around Swanley Train station, engaging and getting the views and opinions of females around their feelings of safety when walking, particularly in the hours of darkness. This issue remains a priority of Kent Police.

PC SHIPLEY attended to concerns of a suspicious male who had been stood near to the Hextable Primary school, whilst PC SHIPLEY was investigating this, it was made clear people were unhappy with the parking situation in and around the primary school, especially around the school finish times. People were complaining about parents/children/elderly having to walk into the road to get around parked vehicle on the pavement. PC SHIPLEY attended to these concerns and moved around 6 vehicles and will continue to conduct the odd visit from time to time.

This is a continuing issue across both Swanley and Hextable areas -

- Vehicles continue to be stolen with keyless entry. While our patrols are always alert for suspicious vehicles and persons in the area overnight, there are a number of measures residents can take to avoid becoming a victim to this type of crime:
 - o When at home keep your car key (and the spare) well away from the car to prevent any form of keyless entry.
 - o Put the keys in a screened or signal-blocking pouch, such as a Faraday Bag.
 - o If you have a garage, use it.
 - o Reprogram your keys if you buy a second hand car.
 - o Turn off wireless signals on your fob when it's not being used.

- o Review your car security. Low tech security devices such as steering locks or trackers remain incredibly effective and continue to deter thieves. If your vehicle has a manufacturer installed tracker, check with your insurance before you alter it as it may invalidate your insurance.
- o Contact your dealer and talk about the digital features in your car. Have there been any software updates you can take advantage of?

New Ash Green & Hartley

We had a successful Violence and Women and Girls (VAWG) event in New Ash Green centre. Engaging and getting the views and opinions of females around their feelings of safety when walking, particularly in the hours of darkness. This issue remains a priority of Kent Police.

Op Sceptre - Knife Crime. Officers conducted some positive engagement with youths and local business around the dangers and prevention of Knife Crimes.

The attempt Theft of the ATM from the Coop is being investigated by Serious Organised Crime Unit. Any information, please get in touch.

I'd like to express my thanks and appreciation for working alongside you over the past few months. After a successful handover and transition period, I have handed over beat officer role/responsibilities to PC O'Callaghan. Having got to know and work with PC O'Callaghan, I believe you will be in good hands moving forward.

Farningham, Horton Kirby & South Darent

A successful joint visit with Kent County Council and Sevenoaks District council to Barnfield Park to address a number of issues.

Halloween and the Firework period had caused some policing challenges, particularly around antisocial behaviour. We are working with the local businesses to identify and robustly deal with those responsible. We encourage the public to report incidents and identities of those involved.

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Crockenhill & Well Hill

It was lovely to meet so many people at the Remembrance Day Parade. A very emotional event and great to see so many community groups represented and paying their respect to our fallen heroes.

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Sevenoaks & Local areas

I am revising the newsletter structure for Sevenoaks and its neighbouring wards this month. Below are the links containing updates for November, distributed via my community voice (MCV) to the following wards:

- Sevenoaks Town & St John's - beat code YC11
- Sevenoaks Kippington - beat code YC12
- Sevenoaks Northern - beat code YC14
- Sevenoaks Eastern - beat code YC15
- Seal & Weald - beat code YC28

I strongly encourage all colleagues, councillors and others to subscribe to MCV as it will likely soon become our primary method of communication. Signing up is very simple.

Click below to:

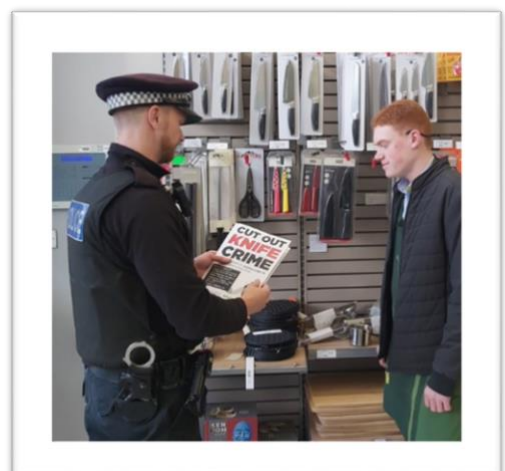
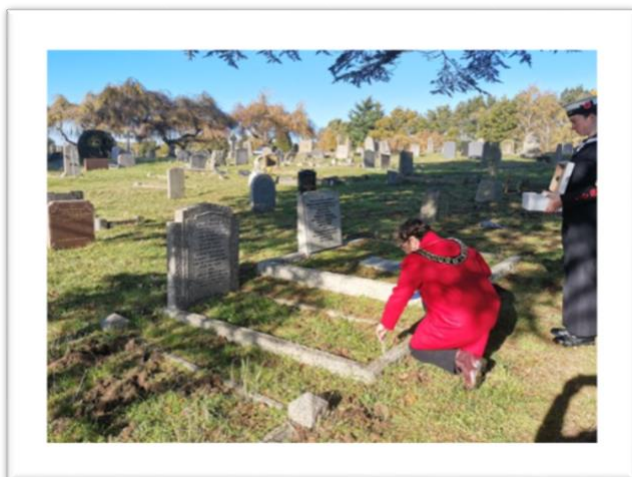
[Find out more about My Community Voice and register](#)

- Sevenoaks burglar caught hiding up a tree
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/116104>
- Urgent Alert: Charity Box Thefts in Sevenoaks Town Centre
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/116321>
- Police Address Persistent Professional Beggar
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/118571>
- Appeal following indecent exposure in Sevenoaks
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/118862>
- Increased Patrolling In Knole Park
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/119202>
- Spate of car thefts in car parks
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/118918>
- Sevenoaks CCTV Crucial in Apprehending Suspect
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/119533>
- Knife Crime Awareness Week
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/119647>
- ALERT: High-Value Tools Targeted in Sevenoaks
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/119658>

- Alert Regarding Recent Burglaries in Weald and Chipstead Areas
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/120885>
- THE VINE UPDATE - PSPO Consultation Concludes with Majority Support for Implementation
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/120690>
- SHOPLIFTER ARRESTED - LIDL, SEVENOAKS
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/121315>
- Police continue to target prolific shoplifters in Sevenoaks
<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/Alerts/A/122153>

Community Engagement

This month we have actively engaged with our community through multiple events. We've supported local businesses, offered advice on knife crime awareness, collaborated with the hospital on violence against women and girls—a crucial aspect of our Kent control strategy. Additionally, we paid respects and participated in two Armistice Day events. One was at the Greatness Cemetery hosted by Mayor Councillor Claire Shea, and the other took place the following day at the Vine, where several people and organisations including Kent police honoured the fallen at the war memorial.



Westerham & Local areas

Dunton Green/Riverhead

Engaged with the local residents about an issue regarding youth ASB and drugs in the area, building a bigger picture to see what CSU can do to reduce this offending in the area. Have attended local business to talk to them about how they prevent knife crime within the area.

Halsted/badgers mount and Knock halt

With the supports of local resident and communication between agencies we have recovered stolen vehicle that have been taken across borders and reunited them with their rightful owners. Also have been continually working with outside agencies to help reduce the Anti-social driving which happened in the area.

Westerham

Having worked with a number of different agencies have help provided and tackle issues of stolen bikes in the area which are a route cause of ASB. I have been working in joint partnership with the safe a neighbourhood teams from the metropolitan police to help tackle cross border crime and work with each other to make both our areas safer and tackle the issues which are causing distress to residents.

Ide Hill

With an increase in poaching and wildlife related criminal offence in the area, I have been working closely with the rural task force to deliver effective action, a number of suspects have been identified and they have received criminal behaviour notices which prohibit them from partaking in activities linked to poaching.

Edenbridge & Local areas

Edenbridge

Edenbridge continued to hold the annual Guy Fawkes celebration, which continues to hold its popularity. There were a large number of attending members of the public both locally and out of area. It was therefore decided that officers would attend in order to show a high visibility presence in the high street and surrounding roads.

Officers were alerted to some suspicious behaviour by security marshals for the event, which lead to the detention, search and arrest of a person for being concerned in the supply of drugs. There is an ongoing investigation into this matter due to possible intelligence for County Lines drug supply.

Beat officers continue to work with wider force resources in order to tackle issues of criminality within Edenbridge.

Unfortunately, the issue of youths with catapults continues to occur sporadically in the town. It is urged that these issues are continued to be reported and where possible photographic or video evidence is obtained. The exact identity of the youths is yet to be confirmed but when this is established there are a number of sanctions at officer's disposal.

Leigh and Chiddingstone Causeway

Regular patrols of both villages continues by local beat officer.

There was a report of potential cold caller/distraction Burglary tactics being adopted by individuals in the area. They were challenged by the resident and were not able to gain entry to the property and swiftly left.

Residents are urged to stay vigilant. Should they find themselves in this situation please adhere to the following:

- Do not allow any unknown persons into address.
- Challenge for any ID or legitimacy
- Call 999 should you feel in danger, or the individuals are refusing to leave.
- Look to obtain Ring doorbell cameras as deterrent.
- Report any issues on Kent Police website.

Penshurst, Fordecombe and Chiddingstone

Unfortunately, some of the tenants on the estate of Penshurst Place have experienced a number of fires. It is not confirmed at this time as to whether or not they are suspicious, however, Beat officers are liaising with Intel teams in order to try and establish any likely offenders. The Estate Manager is aware of the ongoing work.

Due to the increase in Rural burglaries in outbuilding on farmland, Rural Policing Teams have been made aware and will be increasing their patrols where possible.

Cowden and Hever

It was a pleasure to be able to attend the Parish Meetings in both Hever and Cowden. It was beneficial to be able to introduce myself and to meet the Parish Clerks and Councillors alike.

Following on from this, arrangements have been made to meet with the Cowden local neighbourhood watch in the new year.

West Kingsdown , Eynsford, Shoreham, Otford & Kemsing

I would like to introduce myself following the recent handover of this beat area from PC 12238 OWEN officially as of November. My name is PC 15907 WILSON, I have been stationed at Swanley for the entirety of my career as a local policing response officer. Due to this, I have a broad knowledge of each area within my beat and therefore already have knowledge of each area and some of the recent issues/concerns raised.

West Kingsdown & Fawkham

Being based at Swanley previously I was already aware of the "Community Cupboard" that is based on London Road, West Kingsdown and the exceptional work that they do within the community. I attended this to introduce myself and listened to any issues/concerns they have. This business has recently been the victim of an attempt burglary and had substantial damage caused to its outside shutters. Following this I have obtained CCTV of the incident including the vehicle used in the crime. Following research into this I sent the "Victim Based Crime Team" the relevant information to allow them to complete further enquiries into the investigation. Since this incident I have been patrolling in marked and unmarked vehicles to the area to try to deter any further incidents occurring and ensure that any vehicles within the area, especially after dusk are there for legitimate reasons.

Op Sceptre - Knife Crime. . I attended some of the local shops and business within the area to discuss the dangers and prevention of Knife Crimes.

I will be attending the scheduled Parish council meeting on 20th December 2023 to further introduce myself and discuss any issues that have come to my attention within this area. This is an open meeting and therefore any residents that wish to attend are welcome. Following

attending a recent Parish council meeting with PC OWEN I have been ensuring to pass through areas raised by residents. This has included known locations for nuisance vehicles, abandoned vehicles and issues with parking. Following an issue of an abandoned vehicle raised by a local councillor this has since been removed from the location. I have been conducting checks and giving advice to a number of parents who continue to park illegally at a school with the area and this will be continually reviewed and monitored.

Otford and Shoreham

Due to recent reports surrounding multiple burglaries occurring within the area, I have ensured that ive been working alongside colleagues to ensure more high visibility patrols in marked and unmarked police cars around the targeted areas have been conducted, helping show our presence to the public within these areas in the daytime as well as night time due to the majority of incidents happening after dusk. I have also attended some of these addresses to gain a further understanding of the incidences occurring. Following a proactive patrol in the area myself and another beat officer conducted a stop search of 2 males and a vehicle nearby to one of the locations.

“Nottingham Knockers”- Following multiple recent calls from residents in regard to nuisance callers within the area also known as “Nottingham Knockers” the location was attended by myself and multiple local response officers. This lead to a brief footchase and an arrest of one of the individuals who was identified as one of the persons involved in the incident. I would like to thank the residents who have sent me multiple images and footage of those involved in each of the incidents.

On 18th November I attended the annual Christmas Fayre held in Otford High Street. This allowed me to introduce myself to the residents of Otford, along with some of the parish councillors who I will be working alongside to ensure issues or concerns raised can be addressed. On 11th December 2023 at 1900 I will be attending the scheduled Parish council meeting in Otford to further introduce myself and discuss any issues that have come to my attention within this area. This is an open meeting and therefore any residents that wish to attend are welcome.

I will also be attending the scheduled Parish council meeting in Shoreham on 6th December 2023 to further introduce myself and discuss any issues that have come to my attention within this area. This is again an open meeting and therefore any residents that wish to attend are welcome.

Op Sceptre - Knife Crime. I attended some of the local shops and business within the area to discuss the dangers and prevention of Knife Crimes.

Kemsing

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I have been made aware of recent nuisance vehicles within the area often taking vehicles offroad and onto resident's properties damaging furniture and causing a general nuisance. I have been conducting both marked and unmarked patrols within the area both at daytime and night time and stopping and suspicious vehicles within the area to ensure the drivers and passengers of the vehicles are within the area for a legitimate purpose.

Op Sceptre - Knife Crime. I attended some of the local shops and business within the area to discuss the dangers and prevention of Knife Crimes.

I will be attending the scheduled Parish council meeting on 17th January 2023 to further introduce myself and discuss any issues that have come to my attention within this area. This is again an open meeting and therefore any residents that wish to attend are welcome.

Eynsford

Following recent reports of burglaries within the nearby villages I have been ensuring proactive patrolling is conducted by myself and colleagues both in marked and unmarked vehicles at varying times to attempt to deter any criminal activities passing through the area. Multiple vehicles have recently been stopped in the area to make sure the vehicles passing through are there for a legitimate purpose.

Op Sceptre - Knife Crime. I attended some of the local shops and business within the area to discuss the dangers and prevention of Knife Crimes.

I will be attending the scheduled Parish council meeting on 21th December 2023 to further introduce myself and discuss any issues that have come to my attention within this area. This is again an open meeting and therefore any residents that wish to attend are welcome.

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.

