

GREAT CHART WITH SINGLETON – FEBRUARY 2020

As you are all aware, Ashford has recently seen very unsettled weather as Storm Dennis, Storm Ciara and Storm Jorge battered the country. Strong winds and torrential downpours caused many roads in the area to be blocked by falling trees. On Sunday, 16th February, my colleague and I were deployed to a tree that had fallen onto a vehicle along the A252 that runs from Molash to Chilham. Remarkably, the driver of the vehicle walked away uninjured. We were then there for 4 hours waiting for Kent Highways' tree surgeons to remove the tree that had blocked the road. Over the last few weeks, Ashford PCSOs have attended many fallen trees in order to help keep the public safe and traffic moving.



During the February school holiday, Police Community Support Officers have, once again, been involved in an operation with regards to nuisance youths and antisocial behaviour. Traditionally the school holidays have been a busy period for Kent Police when it comes to a minority of youths causing problems. The aim of this operation is to conduct pro-active patrolling and deal with youths as soon as possible when issues are reported to us.

In February, Police Community Support Officers were also involved with a different operation which was organised by the Kent Police Community Safety Unit. This was to raise the awareness of knife crime and to talk to the 8000 children in our local secondary schools about it. Test purchasing of knives was also carried out by non-uniformed police cadets who were underage. 27 shops were visited in the Ashford area and I'm delighted to say that not one sale of a knife was passed through the tills. High visibility patrolling was also carried out at local hot spots and information regarding Neighbourhood Watch and Crimestoppers was also disseminated. With all the community engagement and reassurance that took place, this op was deemed to be extremely positive and very successful.

Local Incidents

Nuisance vehicles – In Great Chart and Singleton, there have been reports of motorbikes driving around recklessly. If you do witness any reckless driving, please take down the number plate, if the vehicle has one and if it is safe to do so. Ideally, if you can video the incident or take photos then this very much helps us to identify the driver but again, put your own safety first. Then report it to us. Under Section 59 of the Police and Reform Act 2002 officers of Kent Police can seize and remove a vehicle, which he or she believes is being driven inconsiderately or carelessly and causing, or is likely to cause, alarm, distress or annoyance to members of the public. Nuisance vehicles remains one of our top priorities.

Theft from work vehicles - Ashford, along with other areas of Kent, have had incidents of van crime where access is being gained in a distinct way. The offender(s) are drilling and then cutting out a small area on the rear door of the van to access the locking mechanism and opening the door to steal the tools. The photo here shows the drilling and cutting they are doing in order to gain access. Please be aware if your own a van.



Future Events

Pop Up Café,

Wednesday, 11th March, 2020 – 11:00am to 1:00pm

Wednesday, 8th April, 2020 – 11:00am to 1:00pm

Great Chart Village Hall, The Street, Great Chart TN23 3AX

This event is run by Great Chart Parish Council and everyone is welcome. It gives an opportunity for people to come together and have a cup of tea. There is also information about what is available locally to help residents. I will be there should you wish to come along for a chat regarding local policing issues.

Community Surgery

Wednesday, 22nd April, 2020 – 1:30pm, at

Singleton Village Hall, Hoxton Close, Ashford, Kent TN23 5LB

Please come along to this surgery should you wish to discuss any community issues. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided.

Bike Marking and Community Engagement Event

Saturday, 25th April, 2020 - 10:00am to 12:00pm

Loudon Way, Ashford, Kent (exact location to be confirmed)

I have arranged this community event with Kent County Council Community Warden, Peter Beasley. On the day we can mark your bikes to protect them from loss or theft or you can just come and have a chat with us. It would be great to see you there.

Parents Awareness Sessions

Free sessions have been arranged by Kent Police with Ashford Borough Council for parents / guardians of young people. These sessions will help with the safeguarding of children as well as give you the tools to recognise the early warning signs that may involve knife crime, drug use or gangs. If you feel that you could benefit from attending one of these sessions, then please reserve your space by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom--kent/knife-awareness-ashford/>



Training to protect your child

Kent Police and Ashford Borough Council would like to invite you to a **FREE** session, aimed at parents and guardians, to help safeguard young people and recognise the early warning signs that may identify involvement in knife crime, drug use or gangs.

Join us:

- Wednesday 26 February, 6-8pm, Council Chamber, Ashford Civic Centre
- Wednesday 4 March, 6-8pm, Sinden Theatre, Tenterden
- Monday 9 March, 6-8pm, Council Chamber, Ashford Civic Centre
- Tuesday 17 March, 6-8pm, Sinden Theatre, Tenterden
- Thursday 19 March, 6-8pm, Council Chamber, Ashford Civic Centre
- Friday 27 March, 6-8pm, Council Chamber, Ashford Civic Centre

Please reserve your space at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom--kent/knife-crime-prevention-ashford/

Working in partnership



**Kent
Police**



**ASHFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL**



CONTACT US

Making it easier to get in touch

<p>In an EMERGENCY only call</p>  <p>999</p> <p>when life is in immediate danger or when a crime is in progress</p>	<p>Report ONLINE The easy way to report crime</p>  <p>Report a crime, incident or non-injury collision in minutes</p>  <p>Receive your confirmation email and reference number immediately</p> 	<p>Front counters</p>  <p>You can report issues to one of our front counters. To find your nearest one visit our website.</p> <p>www.kent.police.uk/contact</p>
<p>Crimestoppers</p>  <p>Call 0800 555111 100% anonymous. Always.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• They are not the police• Nobody will know you have helped us• They pay cash rewards of up to £1,000 <p>www.crimestoppers-uk.org</p>	<p>Hate crime reporting hubs</p> <p>Visit one of our reporting hub drop-in surgeries based in Medway.</p> <p>You don't need an appointment (in most cases) and will be given advice and support by a trained team member.</p>  <p>www.kent.police.uk/hatecrime</p>	<p>ActionFraud Report Fraud & Internet Crime</p> <p>Report online fraud or scams to ActionFraud</p>  <p>Report 24/7 actionfraud.police.uk</p>  <p>0300 123 2040 Mon-Fri 8am to 9pm Sat & Sun 9am-5pm</p>
<p>Ask the Police</p> <p>No need to phone. Get an instant answer online.</p>   <p>www.askthe.police.uk</p>	<p>True Vision</p>  <p>Visit the True Vision website to find out more about hate crime, what to do if you are a victim and to make a report online.</p> <p>www.report-it.org.uk/home</p>	<p>Country Eye – rural crime app</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Snap a photo of the suspicious behaviour, incident or concern.• Receive updates and alerts on the incident you submit.• Tell us where you are or use your phone's built in GPS location. <p>www.countryeye.co.uk</p>
<p>Nuisance and environmental issues</p> <p>Contact your local council for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise complaints Abandoned vehicles Fly tipping <p>www.gov.uk/find-your-local-council</p>	<p>101</p> <p>Call 101 to report crime and other concerns that do not require an emergency response</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• property damaged• suspect drug use or dealing on• give information about crime• have a general enquiry    	<p>Contact the Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Scott</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write to CPCC, Kent Police HQ, Sutton Road, Maidstone, ME15 9BX.• Call on 01622 677066• Email contactyourpoo@poo.kent.police.uk• Twitter @PCCKENT• Visit the website www.kent-poo.gov.uk  