

Community safety in Romney Marsh

Autumn 2009

Welcome to the second edition of your community safety newsletter. It has been designed to tell you what the police and council are doing to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour in your neighbourhood.

Read on to find out how we are dealing with priorities in your community.



How to contact us

If a crime is taking place or life is at risk, dial **999**

Single non-emergency number: ☎ **01622 690690**
(for non-urgent crime reporting, incidents of anti-social behaviour and general enquiries)

Email: shepwaywest.neighbourhood@kent.pnn.police.uk

Your nearest police station: **Hythe Police Station**
121 High Street, Hythe CT21 5JJ
10am-12.30pm and 2pm-4.30pm Monday-Friday (including non-urgent crime reporting)

Website: www.kent.police.uk

Call Kent Crimestoppers anonymously on ☎ **0800 555 111**

This newsletter is available in large print, other formats and languages – call ☎ **01622 652158** to order a copy.

This newsletter is published by the Kent Police Corporate Communications department. Call **01622 652158** for all enquiries.

Dealing with your concerns about fly-tipping

More than 70 commercial vehicles were stopped and checked in the fourth successful crackdown on illegal waste carriers operating in Romney Marsh.

The multi-agency operation took place in the summer and was organised by the Shepway Community Safety Unit. The action taken follows work by Shepway Council Environmental Health to address community concerns about illegal fly-tipping on Romney Marsh.

Council officers issued six fixed penalty notices of £300 to vehicles carrying waste without a valid waste carriers license and for failing to produce an accompanying waste transfer note. Kent Police seized one vehicle as the owner had no insurance and they also issued three tickets to vehicles needing repairs.

Every effort possible is made to make sure the correct newsletter is delivered to each household. However, if you receive the wrong edition, call **01622 652158** and leave your name and full address and we will supply you with the correct newsletter.

Police and councils working together to deal with **anti-social behaviour** and **crime** where you live





You said

You were concerned about fly-tipping and littering in Kings Street, Brenzett.

We did

Shepway District Council community safety officers have investigated the potential for clearing the dykes near Kings Street. Issues regarding safety equipment now require further investigation before work can be carried out.

Road safety campaign

Officers from the Shepway West neighbourhood policing team were out on bicycles for two weeks during the summer holidays to talk to children about road safety.

Officers provided advice to children who walk, cycle and take the bus or train to and from school, and high visibility merchandise was handed out. The Roads Policing Unit also took part in the initiative by conducting speed checks.



Superintendent Jon Sutton said: 'Statistics show that road incidents involving children peak when they return to school. Eighty four children suffered serious injuries on the roads in 2008, with three fatally injured. A further 570 suffered slight injuries.'

You said

You are concerned about young people acting anti-socially, including being abusive and causing damage, in King Street and Moore Close, Brenzett.

We did

Police community support officer (PCSO) Denis Connolly started a radio show called 'Youth of Today' and recruited two local young people to host the weekly show on Romney Marsh FM. The show is targeted at young people on the Marsh to give them somewhere to air their views and concerns. Since the show began, the number of calls received in relation to anti-social behaviour has fallen.

You set priorities, we take action

As part of our commitment to the Policing Pledge, we want to make sure you have the opportunity to:

- have your say on what local priorities should be
- find out what has been done to deal with your concerns

Below are the most recent priorities identified for your ward. To get involved and make sure issues that concern you the most are included, either contact your neighbourhood officer (see page 7 for contact details) or attend one of the events listed below.

Recent priorities identified by your community

- Reducing speeding on the A259, A280, outside the school, in Brenzett and through Ivychurch
- Dealing with anti-social behaviour in King Street and Moore Close, Brenzett

Public consultation – all welcome

Date	Time	Location
Saturday 31 October	Surgery 3pm – 4pm	Marlie Farm holiday park
Monday 2 November	Surgery 11am – 12pm	Marlie Farm holiday park
Friday 6 November	Surgery 11am – 12pm	Marlie Farm holiday park

Times, dates and locations accurate at time of going to press. Enter your postcode at www.kent.police.uk for the latest information.

Crime figures for Romney Marsh

Overall crime was up in July 2009 compared with July 2008. Burglary and anti-social behaviour were also up slightly, however, the police and council continue to work hard to reduce the problem.

	July 2008	July 2009
Crime in total	10	12
Burglary	1	3
Anti-social behaviour	5	6

For more information on crime statistics, visit www.kent.police.uk/crimestats

Your community safety partnership



About us

The Shepway Community Safety Partnership is formed of various agencies which work together to address local priorities and concerns and to reduce crime and disorder to ensure Shepway remains a safe place to live, work and visit.

Shepway District Council, Kent Police, Kent County Council, Kent Fire and Rescue Service and the local NHS primary care trust meet regularly to discuss ways to deal with current priorities.

Day-to-day issues are dealt with by the Shepway Community Safety Unit, set up in 2008, which meets weekly with partners to make sure a coordinated response is taken to deal with specific problems. This allows resources to be focused more effectively to deal with the issues faced by local communities.

You can find out more about the partnership and community safety unit, and download the partnership's three-year plan, online by searching for **community safety** at **www.shepway.gov.uk**.

Film targets binge drinking

The Shepway Community Safety Unit launched a DVD in September to highlight the dangers of teenage binge drinking.

'Four Shots and a Funeral' follows four young people as they attend a party, showing the consequences they each face as a result of their night out drinking.

The film, acted by pupils from Brockhill Performing Arts College, is intended to give young people the information they need to make sensible decisions for themselves.

Kelly Holkham, from the community safety unit, said: 'The project is about using powerful messages to change the culture of alcohol consumption among young people.'

The DVD will be made available for the public to view and will be distributed to secondary schools throughout the district with an education package.

Your community safety officer

Andrzej Kluczynski is employed by the community safety unit to help reduce levels of crime in your ward. His responsibilities include improving the appearance of the district and coordinating community safety activities and events.



He works alongside the neighbourhood policing team on a day-to-day basis, helping to tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental offences including littering, fly-tipping and dog fouling.

Andrzej is responsible for leading prosecutions for environmental offences and can also issue fixed penalty notices, which impose on-the-spot fines for less serious offences.

He will be attending a range of local meetings to work with the community to make Shepway a safer place.

'Have fun but stay safe'

This is the message to residents from Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS) during the firework and bonfire season.

Head of Community Safety, Stuart Skilton, said: 'Our advice is to attend professionally-run firework events where possible. However, if you do hold your own events, fireworks and bonfires must be treated with respect to avoid injury and damage to property.'

'A sparkler can burn up to a temperature of 2000 degrees centigrade, so should never be given to a child under the age of five.'

Fireworks should only be purchased from reputable suppliers and it is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to possess them in a public place. It is also against the law to light fireworks between 11pm and 7am (except on Diwali on 17 October up to 1am the next day and on 5 November up to midnight). In the wrong hands they can cause injuries that wreck lives.

For advice on firework safety go to **www.berr.gov.uk/fireworks**. For free fire safety advice contact the KFRS community safety team on **01622 698360**.



Crime prevention >>

Crime is going down across the county but there is still a lot you can do to keep yourself and your property safe:

- shut and lock doors, windows and sheds to deter opportunist thieves
- do not leave valuables on display in your car
- if someone you do not know calls at your home, check their identity to find out if they are genuine - ask them to wait outside while you call the company or organisation they claim to be from (use details from a phone book or online directory)
- never give bank details or other personal financial information to anyone cold-calling you at home or over the phone
- use a purse chain attached to your handbag
- if you receive abusive phone calls, contact your phone company to block the calls - if the problem persists and you feel threatened, contact the police
- use lights and radios on timers if you are away from your property for any length of time to give the illusion there is someone in
- property mark your valuables with your postcode using a UV pen

Confidential anti-terrorist hotline

If you suspect it, report it:
0800 789321

If something strikes you as suspicious and out of place then trust your instincts and call the hotline.

Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch is a way in which communities can help themselves to stay safe and keep crime levels down.

Groups of volunteers work in partnership with the police and the local council to help deal with local problems.

If you would like to find out more about joining a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, call Sally Coleman on **01304 218151**.

Check out Kent Police on Facebook and YouTube



Your neighbourhood contacts



PC Lee Jordan
☎ **07870 252473**



PCSO Denis Connolly
☎ **07772 226103**



We are your neighbourhood officers for Romney Marsh, part of the Shepway West neighbourhood policing team. If you have any issues you think we should be prioritising for this area, please call to discuss them or attend a local meeting (see page 3).



Email: shepwaywest.neighbourhood@kent.pnn.police.uk

It is the role of the Kent Police Authority to:

- make sure Kent Police is efficient and effective
- make sure community views are reflected in the policing of Kent
- decide on the budget for Kent Police
- decide how much council tax people pay for policing
- feedback to the community on how Kent Police performs

Get in touch or find out more about what we do:

☎ **01622 677055** www.kentpa.kent.police.uk

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