

Barton Ward newsletter



**Kent
Police**

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August 2025

ASB, shoplifting and VAWG remains our main focus throughout August. With the summer in it's prime and warmer weather attracting people to our City, we are committed to ensuring Canterbury is a safe place to work, live and visit.

With that in mind, throughout August, we have:

- **Increased presence:** Off-road motorbikes continue to be a repeat issue within Barton, being used in the Old Park but also on main highways and footpaths. We have been continuously patrolling and put in place some signs to indicate our presence. We are in contact with the MOD to encourage them to repair their fencing and we are planning a day of action to target these offenders.
- **Targeted offending:** Officers in CSU held a day of action targeting those causing anti-social behaviour and violence against women and girls. Officers in plain clothes and some in uniform worked together to identify offenders and deal with them robustly. This operation resulted in multiple arrests, vehicles seized and many persons dispersed. VAWG is a constant priority in day to day shifts for CSU and we encourage anyone to report those who act inappropriately, or harass female members of the public.
- **Tackling persistent problems:** Catapults remains on the list this month as it continues to be highly reported. We are continuing to patrol our river side and rural areas around the city to deter this crime and encourage everyone to call 999 if they see a person using a catapult to harm wildlife, other people or to cause criminal damage. If someone is carrying a catapult but not actively using it, please call our non-emergency line on 101.



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- **Community Engagement:** We are committed to engaging with our community. This includes holding regular community meetings, which are advertised via [My Community Voice](#). PC Gardham is a new officer to our team and will be holding engagement meetings to speak with you. We want to hear your concerns and work together to find solutions.



We are committed to keeping you informed. We publish this monthly newsletter and provide updates on local crime trends and the work we are doing to address these issues on [My Community Voice](#).

Next month's engagements:

- Wednesday 12th September 2025 10:00-11:30 – Spring Lane Neighbourhood Centre, Sussex Ave, Canterbury, CT1 1RT

Your local officer is;
PC Jack Gardham

Good work story:

Kent Police received two reports of an accosting in the City Centre of Canterbury during the hours of 22:00-23:00 on the 22nd August, where a male was intoxicated, following females and trying to grab them to take them away with him. He was reported to have been making controlling demands towards the females and was causing a great deal of distress. CSU officers flooded the area and located distressed females seeking refuge with security at a local club. Officers soon located the male suspect where he was swiftly arrested. All the women were spoken to and some were given assistance to get home safely.

We will not tolerate those who pose a risk to women and girls and treat members of our community this way. The Community Safety Unit strive to ensure our city is safe and that our community can enjoy it's vibrant night life safely. We strongly encourage you all to call 999 if you see any accosting or inappropriate behaviour.



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