

Ashford C.S.U Newsletter

Rural South Ward



**Kent
Police**

Get the latest crime statistics by visiting: <https://www.police.uk/>

December 2025

Acting on Community Concerns The top 3 area concerns

Road Safety Issues, Catapults, Fly Tipping

Tackling Your Concerns...

Icy back roads are here — let's keep the "Dancing on Ice" routines on TV, not on our streets.

As temperatures drop, those quiet country lanes can turn into surprise skating rinks. Add in a frosted windscreen and suddenly you're driving blindfolded into a winter obstacle course. Before you set off, take a few extra minutes to fully clear your windows — front, back and sides. Peeking through a letterbox-sized gap might feel quick, but it's a fast track to a road traffic collision. Slow down on bends, watch for black ice, and give yourself plenty of time to brake. Let's keep the festive spins and slides for the professionals on the ice, not our cars on the roads. It could not only be dangerous — it could be criminal.

❄️ **A28 Patrol: One Land Rover, Two Bad Decisions, and a Very Long Walk Home**

Whilst out on mobile patrol near St Michaels and the Biddenden Road junction, officers spotted a white Land Rover being driven by someone who really shouldn't have been behind the wheel — quite literally. The driver, well-known to police, was already disqualified... and confirmed it himself when stopped.

A quick roadside chat revealed he's banned until late 2026 and fully aware he shouldn't have been driving. As if that wasn't enough, a roadside drug wipe was carried out — and came back positive for cannabis. The result? An arrest, a trip to Canterbury Police Station, and a blood sample taken for analysis. He's now bailed while we wait for the results.

A gentle community reminder: licences and sobriety aren't optional extras. They're the basics that keep everyone safe on our roads. Let's keep the festive season joyful — and the driving lawful.

📋 **A Christmas Closure Order — keeping the peace wrapped up tight.**

On 18 December, Ashford Borough Council and Ashford CSU have worked together in securing a closure order on a property in Longfield, Tenterden, after ongoing issues that had been giving neighbours anything *but* festive cheer. We're talking noise, drug use, comings and goings, catapults, imitation firearms and violent disorder that made life difficult for everyone else in the block. The order now means **no one** is allowed inside the flat — not the occupant, not visitors, not even someone "just popping in for five minutes".

Residents have also been advised not to offer a spare sofa or a secret sleepover spot, as doing so could land them with a similar order of their own. And just like ignoring the "Do Not Open Until Christmas" tag, breaching this order has consequences: anyone found inside the property can be arrested. This action helps ensure everyone in the block can enjoy a calmer, safer, and more peaceful festive season — exactly how it should be.



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Catapults, Councils and Christmas Cheer — Keeping Tenterden Safe

This week we joined members of Tenterden Council, Ashford Borough Council, Neighbourhood Watch, Kent County Council and Tenterden for a very productive meeting about an issue that's been causing more than a few headaches — the use of catapults to harm wildlife and cause damage.

Long term discussions are being had to tackle the issue, but we are also asking residents to keep an eye out. If you see catapults being used, or people collecting stones and pebbles in a way that raises eyebrows, please report it. These items may look harmless, but in the wrong hands they can cause real harm and damage. If this is in progress call 999.

Let's keep the only things being launched this Christmas to be mince pies into ovens — not stones across our communities.

Community Engagements:

- Coffee with a Cop – 10:00 to 11:00 - 12/01/2026 - Appledore Café, The Street, Appledore, TN26 2BX
- Meet the Police – 14:00 to 15:00 – 21/01/2026 - Highbury Hall, Highbury Lane, Tenterden, TN30 6LE
- Coffee with a Cop – 10:00 to 11:00 – 19/02/2026 - Rolvenden Village Hall, Maytham Road, Rolvenden, TN17 4ND
- Meet the Police – 14:00 to 15:00 – 18/02/2026 - Highbury Hall, Highbury Lane, Tenterden, TN30 6LE

Your local officer:

PC 11307 Laker



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