

Ashford C.S.U Newsletter

Rural South Ward



**Kent
Police**

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

November 2025

Acting on Community Concerns The top 3 area concerns:

Road Safety Issues, Catapults, Fly Tipping

An Update from PS 14317 Edge:

I am pleased to announce an important change within your local neighbourhood and some significant developments in our local neighbourhood policing delivery.

We have now been able to expand (double) our rural beat officers to balance with those based in the urban wards and town centre.

What this means for your area is that the rural beat officers can focus more closely on the specific needs within a smaller cluster of wards. By working in smaller rural areas, this means they will be able to address more bespoke concerns locally and ensure a higher visible presence within those areas.

I would like to introduce you to your new beat officer, PC Picton who has extensive experience in policing within the Ashford district already and he looks forward to building strong relationships within the local community and addressing the community concerns.

Acting On Community Concerns:

A vehicle suspected to be involved in poaching in Aldington and Ruckinge was stopped by Kent Police and a Community Protection Warning was issued to the occupants of the vehicle to prevent illegal coursing, lamping and poaching and trespassing in search of game. If this notice is breached, then they will be issued a Community Protection Notice whereby they can be arrested, summons to court and on conviction can result in a fine on top of any other offences committed.

Kent Police have worked closely with Ashford Borough Council in a joint working operation this month in joint sharing of intelligence and proactively targeting illegal waste carriers to prevent illegal waste dumping. Compliance checks have been conducted on waste carrier vehicles. One individual was subject to a Fixed Penalty Notice for non-compliance. If you notice Fly tipping, report it Ashford Borough Council via their website.

Whilst there has been a reduction of reported catapult related incidents within the area, we continue to respond to catapult related incidents and follow up on local enquiries. Whilst it is not illegal to own a catapult or carry one in public, if they are being used to harm people, animals or for anti-social behaviour then an offence may have taken place. If this is in progress, then please report it.

Have your Say – Proposal for Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) in Urban Ashford

Ashford Borough Council are seeking your views on the proposed changes to the current PSPO. The PSPO is proposing new restrictions to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour that is more reflective to the current community concerns and priorities: <https://haveyoursay.ashford.gov.uk/proposal-for-pspo-in-ashford>

My Community Voice
Protecting the neighbourhoods of Kent and Medway

- Find out what's happening in your area
- Receive alerts from your local officers
- Tell us what matters most to you
- Sign up today and make your voice count

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Community Engagements:

- Meet the new Beat Officer - 10/12/2025 - 10:00 to 11:00 hours – Mer sham Stores, The Street, Ashford, TN25 6NA
- Meet the new Beat Officer – 12/12/2025 - 10:00 to 11:00 hours – The Hub, The Green, Woodchurch, TN26 3PA

Keep an eye out for new upcoming meetings on the Kent Police Website under Your Area.

Your local officer:
PC 13322 Picton

Keep Your Property Safe this Christmas:

With Christmas approaching, it's important to remember that burglaries often rise during the festive season. Homes are filled with gifts, gadgets, and valuables, while many of us are out at parties, shopping, or visiting family. By taking a few simple steps, you can reduce the risk of becoming a target.

Home Security

- **Lock all doors and windows** – even when you're at home or in the garden.
- **Keep keys and valuables out of sight** and away from doors and windows. criminals often smash glass to reach keys or grab items.
- **Install security lighting** around entrances and dark areas.
- **Consider CCTV or a video doorbell** for added deterrence.
- **Don't advertise absences** on social media. If you're away, use timers for lights and ask a trusted neighbour to check your property.
- **Secure sheds and garages** – criminals often target tools and bikes.

Vehicle Security

- **Always lock your vehicle** and close windows, even if parked on your driveway.
- **Remove valuables from view** – bags, electronics, and tools are common targets.
- **Never leave keys near doors or windows** – thieves may break glass or use tools to reach inside.
- **Consider a steering wheel lock** or other visible deterrents.
- **Park in well-lit areas** or use a garage if possible.

Report Suspicious Activity

If you see behaviour that is suspicious or out of character, please report it to Kent Police:

- **Call 999** in an emergency or if a crime is in progress.
- **Call 101** for non-emergency reports.
- Or report online at: <https://www.kent.police.uk/>
- **Contact Crimestoppers** anonymously on **0800 555 111** or via an online form if you do not wish to contact the Police Directly

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