

Welcome to the August 2026 edition of the Eastry Newsletter.

As summer draws to a close, I'd like to thank residents for their continued support and engagement within our communities.

This edition includes updates on local policing activity, crime prevention advice, community events, and information on issues that matter to residents. I encourage everyone to remain vigilant and report concerns so that we can continue to respond to matters affecting our neighbourhoods. As always, your information and feedback are invaluable.

Whether reporting suspicious activity, sharing concerns, or getting involved in local initiatives, every contribution helps make a difference.

I hope you find this newsletter informative and useful, and I wish you and your families a safe and enjoyable end to the summer.



This month's community engagements:

Friday 25th September
1000 hours
Eastry Coffee Morning , Eastry Village Hall

Monday 28th September
1300 hours
The Pantry, Jubilee Centre, Sandwich

Your local beat officer:
PC 14106 EYRE-JACKSON
Email:
14106@kent.police.uk



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Statistics for Eastry

There were 73 calls to Eastry Ward between 1st August and 31th August 2026.

Incidents of Note:

02/08/2026 – Betteshanger Road, Betteshanger – Report of vehicles being driven in an anti-social manner.

05/08/2026 – Betteshanger – Report of an attempt burglary, entry gained but nothing stolen, believed the suspect was spooked by house alarm

08/08/2026 – Waldershare – Report of theft of a trailer used for horses. Suspects were arrested and enquires are still ongoing.

25/08/2026 – Betteshanger – stolen vehicle located and seized.

Community Alert: Burglaries at Local Churches.

Police are investigating several recent burglaries affecting churches in rural Dover.

One person has been arrested in connection with the investigation and has been interviewed and bailed pending further enquiries. The investigation remains ongoing.

We ask residents, parishioners and church volunteers to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity around church buildings, particularly outside normal opening hours.

Crime Prevention Advice:

- Ensure doors and windows are secure when premises are unattended
- Consider CCTV, alarms and security lighting where possible.
- Remove or securely store valuable items and avoid keeping cash on site.
- Keep an up-to-date record of valuable property, including photographs and serial numbers.
- Report suspicious people or vehicles in the vicinity of churches.

If you witness a crime in progress, call **999**. To report suspicious activity or provide information, call **101** or report online at **www.kent.police.uk**.

Your vigilance can help protect our local places of worship and support ongoing investigations.

Catapults: Know the Law

There has been an increase in calls regarding the use of catapults in Sandwich and surrounding areas.

Catapults (also known as slingshots) are **not illegal to own** in England and Wales. People may lawfully possess and use them for legitimate purposes such as target shooting or angling. However, the way a catapult is used can make it unlawful and can lead to serious criminal offences.

Using a catapult to:

- Injure or threaten a person may result in offences such as assault, actual bodily harm (ABH), or grievous bodily harm (GBH).
- Damage property, such as windows, vehicles, street furniture, or buildings, may constitute criminal damage.
- Injure, kill, or cause suffering to wildlife or animals may amount to offences under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996, or Animal Welfare Act 2006.

What should you do if you see someone using a catapult?

If you see someone using a catapult, you should consider the circumstances before taking any action:

- **Call 999** if there is an immediate risk to people, animals, or property.
- **Report via 101** if the behaviour is suspicious or causing concern but is not an emergency.
- Do not confront the individual.
- If safe to do so, note descriptions, locations, and any damage or injured wildlife to assist police enquiries.