

Dear All,

I am one of the Police Community Support Officers at Ashford Police station and I cover the following wards, **Finberry, Bridgefield, Mersham, Sevington, Aldington, Brabourne, Brook, Hastingleigh, Bonnington, Bilsington, Smeeth and Ruckinge**. I am going to be sending out monthly updates to key members of the community with a general overview and what I have been involved in that month. If you do not wish to continue receiving this email please let me know.

Summer events:

On 20th July 2019 we were at The Create Festival with the Hawkeye. It was great to see everyone enjoying themselves and thankfully the day went by without too many issues which was great.

If you would like us to attend any upcoming festivals in your area please let us know and we will do our best to get down there.

Anti-Social Behaviour

We have had a few issues in Bridgefield and Finberry and these are currently being looked into. We have had reports of people trying car door handles around Ashford. Please can I ask you to ensure that all belongings are kept out of sight and cars are locked. I did notice on my rounds the other day especially in Bridgefield a number of cars outside houses with their windows open. I understand that it has been hot but please be security aware.

In Finberry we have had youths trying to fish in the ponds and this is not allowed and signs have been placed around this area. If you do witness youths fishing or causing a nuisance please let us know and report it via 101. I must state please report things and do not rely on social media to report as we may not be aware and can do little to help.

Nuisance Bikes

Ashford is experiencing a number of nuisance bikes riding dangerously around housing estates and on busy roads. However our Task Team are on top of this and are taking all lengths to stamp it out. If you do see any bikes acting in this way please try and get a photo or a registration and report it to us.



Car Parks

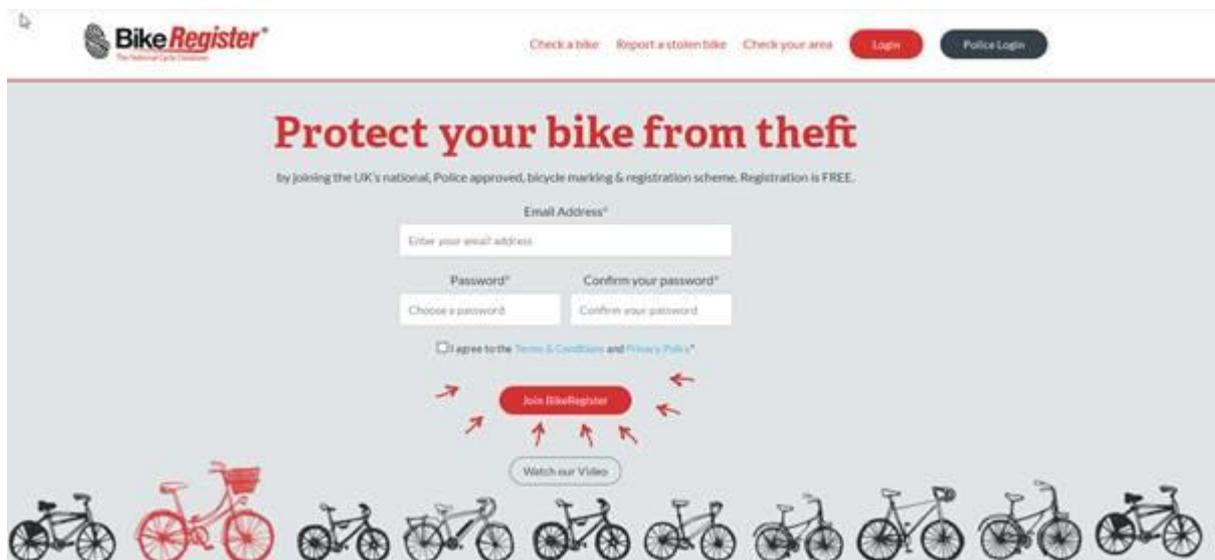
Car Parks throughout Ashford have become a hotspot for crime so please once again can I ask that you keep your belongings out of site and ensure your vehicle is fully secured.



Bike Theft:

We have recently had a period of bicycle thefts happening in and around Ashford and we are trying to encourage people to register their bikes through the following website:

[https://www.bikeregister.com/.](https://www.bikeregister.com/)

A screenshot of the Bike Register website homepage. The page features the Bike Register logo at the top left, with the tagline 'The National Cycle Register'. Navigation links include 'Check a bike', 'Report a stolen bike', 'Check your area', 'Login', and 'Police Login'. The main heading is 'Protect your bike from theft', followed by the text 'by joining the UK's national, Police approved, bicycle marking & registration scheme. Registration is FREE.' Below this is a registration form with fields for 'Email Address*', 'Password*', and 'Confirm your password*'. There are also checkboxes for 'I agree to the Terms & Conditions and Privacy Policy*'. A prominent red button labeled 'Join BikeRegister' is centered, with several red arrows pointing towards it. Below the button is a 'Watch our Video' button. At the bottom of the page, there is a row of ten bicycle icons, with the second one from the left being red and the others being black.

If you have friends or family with bikes please advise them and make them aware of this website to help protect them from theft. I would also recommend that you invest in a lock that would make it difficult for anyone to break.

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

We would like to promote Neighbourhood Watch in your area and if you are interested please go to <https://www.kent.police.uk/advice/community-support/neighbourhood-watch/>

Dogs left in cars:

Please report it on 999 as soon as possible in this extreme heat!!



Dogs die in hot cars

Share this today and save a dog's life

Never leave your dog alone in a car

If it's 22°C outside, inside a car it can get to 47°C within 60 minutes

In hot stuffy vehicles dogs cannot cool themselves down, even with the windows open

Heatstroke can be fatal to dogs

If you see a dog in a car on a warm day, call 999
www.rspca.org.uk

The poster features four illustrations: a dog in a blue car, two dogs in a green car, a dog in a white car with its tongue out, and a dog in a red car with 'HELP' written on the windshield.

Burglaries and Theft

Please could you take a moment to read through the below step's on securing your property.

At home

- Lock all windows and doors before you go out or go to bed, making sure you know where your keys are in case of an emergency.
- Fit security measures such as intruder alarms, door chains and locks.
- Avoid labelling house keys in case you lose them and they fall into the wrong hands.
- Don't leave keys (including car keys) or valuables on display near doors or windows.
- Make sure fences, hedges and gates are in good condition.
- Consider installing external security lights, but make sure they do not affect your neighbours.
- Avoid leaving side gates open and put away ladders, tools or garden equipment that could be stolen or used to break into your home.
- Keep garages and sheds locked and alarmed where possible.
- Store bins carefully so they cannot be used as climbing aids.
- Never hide spare house keys outside or in a shed.
- Dispose of packaging carefully - empty boxes left outside your home could advertise your valuables to thieves.

If you go away

- Use timer switches on lights and radios to give the impression that someone is home.
- Cancel regular deliveries, such as milk and newspapers.
- Make sure garden furniture is stored away and lock sheds and gates.
- Ask a relative or trusted neighbour to pop in and move any post from inside your door
- Arrange for the curtains to be opened and closed while you are away.
- Offer your neighbours the use of your driveway.

All incidents that have been reported to the Police can be found in full depth from crime statistics which are available by visiting www.police.uk .

I would like to remind all residents to stay vigilant and report anything suspicious online or via the Kent Police non-emergency number 101 or if you do witness a crime in progress then please do call 999.

Please do not report directly to me as there are days when I am not on duty and this could delay any actions that need to be taken, leading to potential loss of evidence.