

Guston, Kingsdown and St. Margaret's newsletter



Kent Police

Get the latest crime statistics by visiting: www.kent.police.uk/yourarea

February 2026

Contacting Kent Police

Please remember in an emergency **always dial 999**

For any non-emergency enquiries please visit the Kent Police website where you can:

- Submit an online report of a crime or other incident
- Use our "Live Chat" function and speak with a call taker, not a bot
- Contact Crime Stoppers
- Follow links to our Social Media platforms including X and Facebook
- Call 101



Community engagement

- Saturday 7th March 1000 – 1300 hours Community Engagement at The Bay Bistro, St. Margaret's
- Wednesday 11th March 1000 -1200 hours Community Engagement at the Royal Marines Association; Mess Tins and Banter, Walmer
- Tuesday 17th March 1000 – 1200 hours Community Engagement at East Langdon Village Hall
- Saturday 21st March 1800 – 2100 hours Women's Safety Event at The Landmark Centre (free ticket required) [Women's Safety Event Tickets, Saturday, Mar 21 from 6 pm to 9 pm | Eventbrite](#)
- Sunday 22nd March 1000 – 1200 hours Community Engagement at Guston Village Hall
- Friday 27th March 1000 – 1200 hours Deal & Sandwich PCN Social Prescribing's Wellbeing Café at The Royal Hotel

Your local Neighbourhood Police Officer
PC 12757 Sophie Bramble



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Receive alerts from your local officers

Tell us what matters most to you

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What is StreetSafe?

As part of the government's agenda to tackle violence against women and girls, we are using an online tool called StreetSafe to enable people, particularly women and girls, to report locations where they feel or have felt unsafe and to identify the features on why that location made them feel unsafe. The focus of this is to identify particular areas and factors that lead to people feeling unsafe and might help offenders either commit or conceal a crime – such as street lighting, abandoned buildings or poorly designed spaces, vandalism, as well as behaviours of individuals or groups of people. StreetSafe is anonymous <https://www.kent.police.uk/notices/street-safe/street-safe/>

Fraud

With fraud responsible for nearly half of all reported crime and numerous ways to try and scam you, it remains invaluable to protect yourself. We have had a spike in this area for courier fraud particularly where you receive an unexpected telephone call. A scammer claims to be from your bank or a police officer.

Never share your PIN, card, or transfer money to a 'safe' account.

[Door-to-door and courier fraud | Kent Police](#)

In response to such distressing crime, I have been organising fraud talks for local groups and other vulnerable members of our community. Your KCC Community Warden, Martin Dadd, Kent Police Fraud Prevention Co-ordinator, Emma, and I have been raising awareness and increasing confidence in how to deal with scammers.

Are you involved with a group that would benefit from a fraud talk?

Please get in contact [Contact an officer or member of police staff | Kent Police](#) or use any of the non-urgent methods listed at the beginning of this newsletter.

Rogue Traders

Rogue Traders continue to cold call in the area. Please be vigilant and report anything suspicious.

Use reputable traders who are members of the KCC Trading Standards approved trader scheme [Trading Standards Checked](#)



What is what3words?

This free app has divided the world into 3 metre squares and given each square a unique combination of three words. It's an easy way to find and share exact locations.

Kent Police are one of many emergency services around the world that now accept 3-word addresses from callers. For further information, please see the following link [About us | what3words](#)



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Our Local Policing Priorities

Following feedback from Guston, Kingsdown and St. Margaret's ward residents, along with our analysis of local crime data and ongoing concerns raised within the community, we have identified **three key policing priorities** for the area. These priorities reflect what matters most to the people who live and work here, and they guide where we focus our time and resources. By continuing to share your concerns and reporting issues as they occur, you help us direct targeted action, problem-solving, and visible policing to the places that need it most.

Anti-Social Behaviour (Nuisance):

Anti-social behaviour can have a significant impact on quality of life, especially in rural communities where village centres, footpaths, and public spaces are shared by residents, families, and visitors. Within the Guston, Kingsdown and St. Margaret's ward, concerns often include nuisance behaviour in village hubs, minor disorder, noise disturbances, alcohol-related nuisance, and young people gathering in areas where it causes worry or disruption for the community.

I take these reports seriously. Rural communities rely heavily on shared spaces, and nuisance behaviour can quickly affect how safe and comfortable residents feel. When you report incidents to us, it helps build a clear picture of where issues are happening, enabling us to carry out targeted patrols, problem-solving visits, and proportionate enforcement where required.

Some nuisance issues in the ward - such as noise complaints, neighbour-related problems, waste issues, and environmental nuisance - are dealt with by Dover District Council (DDC). Reporting these directly ensures the right agency is able to respond effectively.

Report to Kent Police:

Online: www.kent.police.uk/report

Call 101 (999 in an emergency)

Report to Dover District Council:

Online: www.dover.gov.uk/report (search "Anti-Social Behaviour", "Neighbour problems", or "Noise")

By reporting concerns as they arise, you help us identify patterns, protect community spaces, and maintain the safety and tranquillity that make our rural villages such valued places to live.



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Road Safety in the Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's Ward – A Shared Responsibility Across Our Rural Communities:

Road safety remains a key priority across the Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's ward, which includes several rural villages and smaller communities. With narrow lanes, blind bends, limited lighting, and increasing numbers of pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders, school traffic, and seasonal visitors, responsible driving is essential in keeping our rural areas safe.

Residents regularly report concerns such as speeding, unsafe overtaking, poor parking around village centres, and motorcycles being ridden at speed or used antisocially. These behaviours can create real risk for road users and affect the feeling of safety within our villages.

Your reports are crucial in helping us understand where issues occur. When a persistent or ongoing problem is identified, I can arrange targeted responses such as extra resources, speed monitoring, specialist-unit support, and high-visibility patrols in the most affected areas.

Local residents can also support safer roads by volunteering for Kent Police's Community Speedwatch. Trained volunteers monitor vehicle speeds using approved devices, providing valuable data that informs police action and helps educate drivers. You can find full details or register your interest at <https://www.kent.police.uk/speedwatch>

By reporting concerns - whether speeding, dangerous driving, near-miss incidents, or motorcycle-related nuisance - you help shape policing activity across the ward and ensure our focus goes where it is needed most.

Together, we can keep the villages within the Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's ward safe, connected, and welcoming for everyone who lives in or travels through our rural communities.



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Drink / Drug Driving – Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's Ward

Drink and drug driving is a serious concern for residents across the Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's ward. In rural areas - where roads are narrower, visibility is reduced, and pedestrian and cyclist activity can be unpredictable - the risks posed by impaired drivers are even greater. Tackling this behaviour is a key policing priority, and community information plays a vital role in helping us keep our roads safe.

If you believe someone is driving under the influence of drink or drugs, and the offence is happening *now*, it is important to **report it immediately via 999**.

This ensures officers can respond as quickly as possible. Details such as the vehicle registration, make and model, driver description, location, and direction of travel are extremely valuable and greatly increase the chances of an interception.

If you have information about someone who regularly drink- or drug-drives, but it is not happening at that moment, you can report this to Kent Police online or by calling 101. This helps us build intelligence and take appropriate safeguarding and enforcement action.

For those who would prefer to report information confidentially, you can contact Crimestoppers, an independent charity that accepts anonymous reports and passes information to the police.

Crimestoppers (Anonymous):

- Phone: 0800 555 111
- Online: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org>

Your information - whether urgent or intelligence-based - helps us target patrols, plan interventions, and take action against those putting lives at risk. Together, we can continue to keep our rural communities safe.

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Out and About on Cycle Patrol

I continue to be out on cycle patrol across the Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's ward, and it has been a real pleasure to be a visible and accessible policing presence in the area. Using the bike allows me to reach footpaths, rural lanes, and village spaces that aren't always as easy to patrol by vehicle, while giving me more opportunities to stop and speak with residents as I pass through.

I've really enjoyed meeting so many of you during these patrols - whether out walking, working in the village, or simply enjoying the local countryside. Being able to engage directly with the community, hear your thoughts, and understand the issues that matter to you is an important part of neighbourhood policing.

The photo of my patrol bicycle by the Kingsdown sign is a small reminder that I'm regularly out and about in the ward and always happy to stop for a chat or hear any concerns you may have. Thank you to everyone who has taken a moment to stop for a chat. Your local insight and friendly conversations make a real difference and help shape how I support the ward moving forward.



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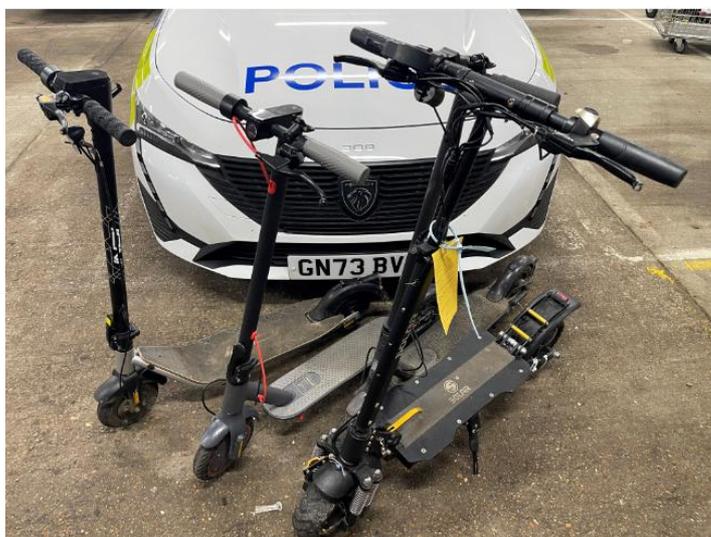
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Electric Scooters – know the law

Although e-scooters can be great fun, it is **against the law** to ride one on a public road, cycle lane or pavement. Please share this information with friends and family.

E-scooters are classed as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs), which means they are treated as motor vehicles and subject to the same legal requirements, such as driving licence, insurance, number plates, lighting, road tax, crash helmets etc. **Without these, e-scooters cannot be used legally on the road.**

The Government is currently trialling the use of approved rental e-scooters as environmentally friendly modes of transport in specific locations in the UK.

For the rest of the country, under current law, e-scooters can only be used on private land with the landowner's permission.

It is our priority to keep you and other road users safe.

We are obliged to take action against anyone who is caught repeatedly using an e-scooter illegally or in a way that causes a nuisance to others. In these circumstances we have the power to seize the e-scooter under Section 59 of the Police Reform Act/165 of the Road Traffic Act – and we'd really prefer not to.

For more information about powered transporters and the law, visit www.gov.uk



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