

Parish Council monthly update

Hawkhurst and Sandhurst

April/2020

Your Local PCSO is : Simon HUMPHREYS

The PCSO's continue to maintain as much high visibility within your communities as possible. They are still being tasked with foot patrol and mobile patrol in areas where there is likely to be a higher footfall, such as supermarkets and local parks to ensure that the Government Social Distancing rules are being applied. We have received a number of calls from the public reporting matters regarding breaches of these rules and we endeavour to deal with as many of these as possible.

Regarding Crime for your ward and any developing trends, we would like to advise you of the following;

Residential and Commercial / Business Burglaries remain high on the Kent Police agenda due to the nature of the crime and the impact it has on its victims.

Please refer back to the guidance and advice issued in last months' newsletters regarding keeping your property safe and how best to do this.

Theft from motor vehicles has shown a small increase in the ward over this month. We ask that you remain vigilant in reporting any suspicious or Anti-Social activity in your area and we will continue to assist where we can. You can report matters of a non-urgent nature via our online chat through the Kent Police website, or by calling 101 and speaking to one of our operatives at the Force Control Room.

Remember – Prevention is key.

Please see below the monthly update from our dedicated Crime Prevention PCSO. He has many years' experience and is willing to offer support and advice around Crime Prevention wherever he can; PCSO Miles BOOTH.



**Kent
Police**

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Parish Council monthly update

Crime prevention

This month we wish to stress the importance of property marking.

The main purpose of marking your property is to make items less attractive to thieves who may be intent on stealing it in the first place as they will know if they are caught in possession of stolen items the Police can quickly establish its identity.

In addition, traceable property may be more difficult to "cash in" with other criminals or to a willing purchaser of the item. It also greatly enhances the chances of people being reunited with their property, which is important too.

Although etching or punching a postcode and house number or name / company on property can be very effective it is often not a practical option, so we must look at other ways of effective property marking.

Electronic marking

If a mobile phone is stolen or lost, the police will be checking a website called www.immobilise.com. If the police find it in possession of a criminal or in the street etc it can assist in identifying it. It is a free service and takes a few minutes on line to register your phones details.

Forensic marking

Forensic marking solutions are readily available on the market. Forensic marking solutions have a unique code and so each bottle is identifiable and registered to your address.

If you decide to forensically mark your property, we would urge you to visit the Police endorsed website www.securedbydesign.com

Once on the website, go to looking for a product and then select asset marking, tracking and chemical field-testing kits. There is a list of companies and products. You can then view the products and decide which one best meets your need and budget.

It is important to use products that are tried and tested and meet specific standards. If you chose any of the products and suppliers from the website you are safe in the knowledge that the product meets the relevant standards.

We would urge you to use the products and mark items both within your house, garage, shed and anything else you wish.

Some of the items would be mobile phones, electronic devices such as laptops, kindles, I pads, cameras, items such as porcelain figurines, ornaments, pictures (on the rear of the frame).

Outside of the house items such as garden furniture can be marked. Tools that are in sheds or garages can also be marked, also such items as mowers, leaf blowers, strimmers, chain saws should be marked.

Once the items have been marked, they should be photographed, and any serial numbers noted. Then an inventory should be made and kept for future reference.

Items can be registered with the supplier and with two property data bases.

1. www.immobilise.com (mentioned already).
2. www.thenmpr.com

We have included the links to just two of the websites that deal in the forensic marking solutions.



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They are;

1. www.selectamark.co.uk
2. www.smartwater.com

Both suppliers are on the secured by design website and their products are tested to PAS 820. Selectamarks products are guaranteed for five years even if they are used in an out door environment, also If after registering your kit, marking your items of property and putting up the warning stickers as indicated, you still get burgled Selectamark will refund the price you paid for your home kit in full.

There are also bicycle marking kits available from the suppliers and once the bicycle is forensically marked, it should be registered with the frame number on the above databases and also www.bikeregister.com

In the future we will be organising crime prevention events in local supermarket car parks, village halls and other prominent locations.

At these events you will be able to speak to our officers about any concern you have, and it will incorporate safer plates. This is where the police can replace your number plate screws with anti-tamper proof screws. This will reduce / stop the chance of them being stolen and used in crime. This service is free.

If you wish to have any crime prevention advice before we are able to organise the events, please contact us at csu.tunbridge.wells@kent.police.uk



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