

Community Safety Partner Updates



June 2023

Meet the Community Safety Team

From left: Community Safety Officers Lexie Foord and Tara Liam, and Community Safety Specialist Scott Butler



Community Safety Update and Events Community Safety Partnership

The annual in person Community Safety Partnership event was held at the Quarterhouse attended by over 35 partner agencies.



June 2023

Scott Butler along with Kent Police, KCC, Probation, NHS and Kent Fire & Rescue worked on developing the annual strategic assessment to create next year's action plan.



Healthwatch award for Winter Well event



Recognition for collaboration category

- ★ IC24 and Kent Community Health
- ★ Folkestone & Hythe District Council, East Kent Health & Care Partnership, Kent Community Health, Social Enterprise Kent

Folkestone & Hythe District Council partnered with the NHS and Social Enterprise Kent (including community groups) to host a drop-in at the Folca building in November last year supporting the people of Folkestone. During the event community safety awareness information was shared, ranging from road safety to the domestic abuse one stop shop, human trafficking, modern slavery and the team handed out personal alarms, whistles, torches and snap bracelets.

The Healthwatch award recognised the collaborative working of the organisations to achieve a well-attended event.



Op Sceptre

On 15 May, the Community Safety Officers worked on Op Sceptre a national knife campaign supported by Kent Police to raise awareness of knife crime. The Op is led by Caley Walden, Kent Police Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) Co-ordinator, worked with partners agencies to detect and prevent knife crime in our district. PC Swainston and PC Obbard and Julian Streader the KCC Youth Hub delivery manager.

The officers started from Folkestone Town Bus Station and divided into two groups of three visiting retailers and giving staff posters to display. The outlets included Choice, TK Maxx, Poundland, ASDA, Savers, McDonald's, a charity shop, Taco Bell, Sainsburys and a military supply store.

Knife wand sweeps were conducted in St Eanswythe's churchyard, the Harbour area, and Payers Park where a grinder and a small razor blade were found. The teams checked the knife bin located in Payers Park and talked to members of the public and retailers.



2023 Tall Ships project

30 young people from Folkestone and Hythe took part in an exciting cross border weekend of sporting activities as part of the Tall Ships project. Pupils, aged 13 to 14, were selected by local schools joined 30 young people from twin town Boulogne in France on the Tall Ships adventure that was postponed in 2021 due to Covid.

The 2023 project, supported by Folkestone & Hythe District Council and Boulogne Town Hall, began on 18 May with the French young people visiting Folkestone for 4 days, Lexie Foord from Community Safety also attended.

The group enjoyed four days of activities and challenges organised by [The Sports Trust](#) including water sports, orienteering and a visit to the [F51 - Skate Park | Climbing Centre | Boxing Club](#).

The first day comprised of climbing and learning how to skateboard including scootering and drawing designs underneath the skateboard. On the second day the young people enjoyed swimming, volleyball, rounders, and dodge ball.

On day three some of the youngsters split into groups with some heading to the Warren to take part in educational walks, hiking, identifying various species of butterflies and some youngsters played beach volleyball, paddling for sea glass and skimming stones on the sea. The last day was spent walking along The Leas, Coastal Park, boardwalk, Harbour Arm with some of the French youngsters heading to the shops.

On 1 June to 4 June, Lexie Foord headed to Boulogne as part of the return exchange held in Boulogne-sur-Mer, France where 13 local pupils were chosen, based on their attendance, commitment, and motivation, to crew the Tall Ship Thalassa alongside their French counterparts on a five-day voyage in July.

They are due to set sail from Folkestone Harbour on 9 July arriving in Boulogne in time for the famous sea festival (La Côte D'Opale fête la Mer) – a gathering of tall ships and traditional boats attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors.

The Tall Ships opportunity of a lifetime uses the physical challenges of sailing and competitive sports as a vehicle to break down language barriers, raise aspirations, improve self-confidence and self-esteem, and develop team spirit.



Folkestone Talks

On 20 April, the Community Safety Unit and Environmental Enforcement officers attended the Turner Free School, Morehall Primary School and Folkestone Primary School giving talks and handing out leaflets and safety advice.



Folkestone Talks is organised by the Turner Stone Hub which has organised people in the community to speak to the children in their schools. Partners who attended were [Care for Calais](#) , [Rainbow Centre](#), [Cheriton Baptist Church](#), [Royal National Lifeboat Institution](#), [Kent Police](#) alongside many other partners.

Dementia Showcase



what it is like living with dementia.

Community Safety Officer, Tara Liam attended the Dementia Showcase on Friday 19 May at Detling. There were 50 exhibition stands from support services promoting their products for people with dementia. There was a virtual bus that enabled you to experience



Try Angle Awards

Try Angle is run by Kent County Council Youth Hub and put together by young people. The awards are to celebrate and provide recognition to young people in our district who have achieved good things e.g. shown progression within themselves or who have helped the community.



Lexie Foord handed the award for Positive Intervention to the Youth Hub SpeakOut Group. Lexie spoke about how this group has developed and grown since it was established in 2020. To start with this group was formed to get young people's voices and opinions on the Young People's Partnership Conversation, but it has grown into so much more.

The group wanted to not only continue youth voice activities but also focus on wellbeing activities for both themselves and others in the district. During this time, they've really developed their communication and teamwork skills and Lexie feels honoured that she has seen their growth.

Previously this used to be quite a quiet group but now it has developed a strong network supporting each other and those in the community. During July 2022, the group helped with the recruitment and selection for three new workers in the team. They were a fantastic help and represented the hub well. They also have reviewed Reconnect grants and helped to decide where the money went.

Lexie highlighted how proud she is of all of them and what they have achieved.

Congratulations to all the young people who were nominated for the different awards.

Op Chincock

On 30 May, the Community Safety Unit, KCC Community Wardens, Southern Housing Group PCSOs held a community engagement event



with residents from Moore Close in Brenzett following a Community Trigger raised. A Community Trigger allows residents in a community to ask the CSP (Community Safety Partnership) to review responses to complaints of ASB (anti-social behaviour). Residents and young people came together and planted various plants in wooden containers funded by Southern Housing. Partners conducted door knocking, wellbeing visits including home checks. Early Help conducted youth engagement.

Partner Updates Urban Pastors



The Urban Pastors have a new vehicle and can attend areas when called upon and play a key role in keeping the areas safe. The team has been active in the district for nine years.

Porchlight



Porchlight Open Door is a friendly get-together at the heart of your community.

You can drop by for as long as you like to get support and advice, try a new activity or just for some company and conversation.

The weekly sessions are run by our warm, welcoming team. They're there to listen, to give practical advice on benefits, housing and debt and to help you connect with services and support networks in your area.



You can also try different activities every week, from painting to CV writing – but there's no pressure to take part. You can just turn up for a chat.

It's completely free, and everyone aged over 18 is welcome.

Join us in Folkestone:

Thursdays 12.30-2.30pm
St John's Church, St John's Church Rd, CT19 5BQ



Clarion Advice Line – New Launch Date 26th June 2023

CLARION
HOUSING

Clarion are delighted to announce...

...our new free advice-line for professionals in Kent will be available from

Monday 26th June

07745 207247

A dedicated telephone advice-line specifically aimed at supporting professionals in North & South Kent whose everyday role brings them into contact with victims / survivors of domestic abuse.

Available Monday to Thursday between 9am and 5pm and Friday between 9am and 3.30pm.

Kent Police



Tackling Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG)

We are committed to eradicating all forms of violence against women and girls and have a strong approach to actively pursue violent perpetrators.

We want women and girls who live, work and socialise in our communities to feel safe.

Please come along and tell us your views at:

**Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone
Friday 7 July 2023
6pm to 8pm**



**Kent
Police**

**Protecting and serving
the people of Kent**

Contacting Kent Police



Report a non-urgent crime or incident online at www.kent.police.uk/report or click the **Live Chat** button



In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger, call **999**



If you are hearing or speech impaired, use the textphone service **18000** or download the **BT Relay app**



Sign up to www.MyCommunityVoiceKent.co.uk to receive and respond to community alerts from your local officers



Email your local policing team go www.kent.police.uk/yourarea



Find us on [Facebook.com/kentpolice](https://www.facebook.com/kentpolice)



Follow us on Twitter [@kent_police](https://twitter.com/kent_police) or find your local account at www.kent.police.uk/yourarea



Follow us on Instagram [@kentpoliceuk](https://www.instagram.com/kentpoliceuk)



For non-urgent issues, if you are unable to get online, call **101**



Kent Police

www.kent.police.uk

Fraud / Scams

Protecting Your Digital Footprint



Every time you use visit a website, send or receive a message or email, buy or book anything online, comment on a post, upload a photo or find directions on your phone, you're

adding to your digital footprint.

The internet provides many positive experiences, but we could probably all benefit from thinking more about the trail we leave online.

Your digital footprint is part of your online history and can potentially be seen by other people, or tracked and held in multiple databases, however careful you are with your privacy settings.

This month the Get Safe Online campaign considers what might happen as a result of [Your Digital Footprint](#) and provides tips and advice on what you can do to protect your digital trail.

Advice regarding Rogue Traders

Please see the below advice as Kent residents are reminded to be vigilant against rogue traders operating in parts of the County after an elderly woman was targeted for large sums of cash.

- If someone knocks at your door, always refuse on the spot repairs or maintenance.
- Don't allow anyone to pressure you into agreeing to have work carried out. If you ask them to leave and they don't, contact the police on 999.
- Don't ever go to a bank or cash point with a trader; legitimate traders would never do this.
- Use reputable traders who are members of the KCC Trading Standards approved trader scheme [Trading Standards Checked \(kent.gov.uk\)](https://www.kent.gov.uk/trading-standards-checked)
- Ask for quotes in writing and check that the tradesperson is from the company they say they are from.



Kent Police state: *'Some criminals will look to exploit the more vulnerable members of our communities by charging exorbitant amounts of money for work that is often completely unnecessary or at best substandard. We would urge residents not to deal with cold callers who knock on doors offering work to clean driveways, repair roofs or to maintain garden shrubs, hedges and trees. We are also asking*

neighbours to keep an eye out for vulnerable people, including the elderly. If you see anything suspicious don't hesitate to call the police.'

Here in Community Safety, we have received reports from residents of rogue traders knocking on doors saying their tree needs cutting etc.

If you have any information that you would like us to include within any future updates, please email the details to community.safety@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk