

Community Safety Partner Updates



May 2024

Community Safety Update and Events

Spring Well Event – 23 May

On 23 May, F&HDC Community Safety along with partner agencies came together for the first Spring Well event held at the Harbour Church.

Representatives from Age UK, [ROAR](#) (Reach Out And Recover), Kent County Council, [KentFire&Rescue](#), NHS, Kent Police, [FutureSkills](#), [RainbowCentre](#), E.ON Energy and many more present where many of organisations had stalls which residents came along to and spoke directly with agencies about issues that matter to them.



Topics discussed included mental health, welfare support, housing.



The next well event is the Summer Well (see below).

May 2024

Summer Well Event 16 July

Summer Well Event

Showcasing all the great community work being done throughout the district.

Speak to us at:
Cheriton Baptist Church
Quested Road
Folkestone
CT19 4BY



JULY
16
10am-1pm

Join us and our partner agencies along with other members of your local area to speak about issues that matter to you.



Folkestone Talks

On 20 May, Tara Liam from the Community Safety Unit attended Martello Primary, part of the Turner Schools Group, 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 included the Environment Agency, Victim Support, Kent Wildlife Trust, Kent Fire & Rescue Service, Migrant Support, Kent Police and Folkestone & Hythe District Council officers.



May 2024

Shepherd House Open Day

On 21 May 2024, Tara Liam from Community Safety was joined by KCC Warden, Carol Coveney and attended the Change Grow Live (GCL) Open Day based at Shepherd House in Folkestone.

[ChangeGrowLive](#) provide advice and support to empower anyone experiencing drug and alcohol addiction including help with housing, domestic abuse, or mental and physical wellbeing.



Op Sceptre

On 24 May, Tara Liam from Community Safety worked on Op Sceptre a national knife campaign supported by Kent Police to raise awareness about knife crime.

At a stall in Folkestone's Bouverie Place Shopping Centre Caley Walden, Kent Police Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) Co-ordinator, and KCC Wardens highlighted ways of preventing knife crime in our district.

The officers engaged with around 30 people about crime and anti-social behaviour.



Violence Reduction Unit

The Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) addresses the causes of violence and aim to support those involved and impacted by violence.



Below is a case study from [SportsConnect](#) that the [KentandMedwayViolenceReductionUnit](#) regarding E and F (names not disclosed and will be addressed by initials only)

E** and F***** attended the youth session that was put on with Folkestone youth team for the group of Roma young people that hang around Payers Park in Folkestone. Both of them are keen on boxing but were hanging around with a group known for causing trouble. We worked with them for about 10 weeks introducing different sports and getting to know them.

We then offered them the opportunity to do a boxing Continuing Professional Development (CPD). They came along with the help of the youth team and absolutely loved it. F**** then got himself involved with the local boxing club and started doing sessions with them. Due to the success of the CPD we then offered them the chance to complete a 1st4Sport level 1 multi-skill activator by putting a 4-week provision on in the hub in Folkestone. F***, E*** and 5 other young people came along to the course we provided each week and successfully qualified for their activator.

We then offered them work as assistant coaches with us at Sports Connect. Off the back of all of this F*** has decided he would like to join the police and has gone through the application process. He has an interview on the 10th of May.

E*** has decided he wants to join the Army/Navy and pursue boxing once in the armed services. He is due to go to the army careers office in Canterbury soon to get the information he needs for joining.

Both of them now are much more careful which friends they spend their time with and F*** has even tried to help other young people get involved in boxing rather than hanging around the park.

They are now both fantastic role models for the young people around them, it has been an absolute joy watching them grow and realise their potential!

Partner/Agency Updates

University of
Kent

Space School 2024

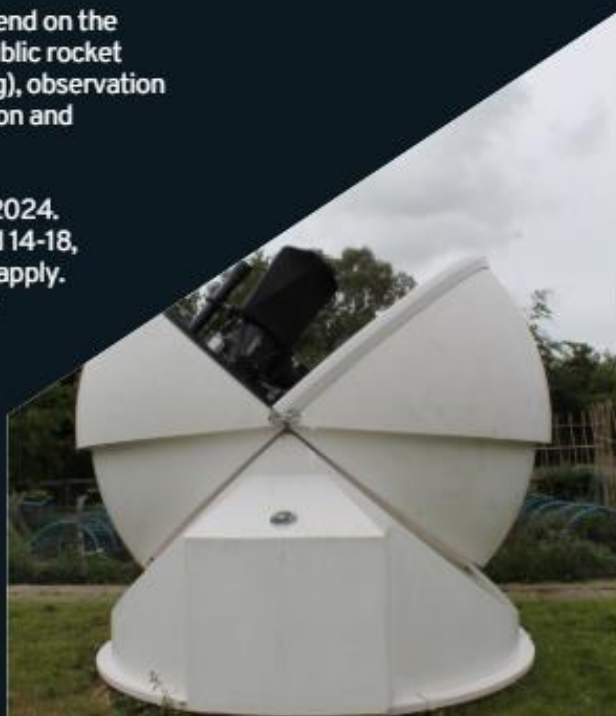
7 – 11 August 2024

Join us at the University of Kent for the 2024 Space School.

In this five-day experience, you'll work in teams to design your own mission to space. You will hear funding pitches from current researchers, design and build your own rockets, and see them launched at our Canterbury campus!

Guests are welcome to attend on the 10 and 11 August for our public rocket launch (weather permitting), observation evening, poster presentation and prize-giving.

Applications open Spring 2024. This is aimed at those aged 14-18, though all are welcome to apply. Sign up here to be notified when applications go live.



Space Week is 5-day summer week event which aims to get young people interested in Space Science. The event will take the form of a mission to Mars, where successful applicants will be split into their own mission teams and work through a mission life cycle on a condensed and easily digestible framework. The key areas of a mission's lifecycle will be highlighted, and they will be able to participate in activities such as:

- Reverse Funding Panel - attendees can pick which academics get money.
- Rocket Design and Launch - attendees can design and launch their own rockets.
- Rover Piloting – attendees get to show off their programming skills and pilot a rover around our Martian track.

Space week aims to give young people who are traditionally underrepresented in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) at university a chance to experience university culture and gain experience and guidance which can help them in their applications. This year there is a particular focus on girls, and young people from military families.

When: 7 – 11 August 2024

Where: University of Kent, Canterbury

Who: Children aged 14-17 (please note that there is no previous knowledge required to take part in Space Week)

Applications are currently open and will close at the end of June.

Interspersed within Space Week will also be several public access events at the University of Kent. These will start at 5pm and are open to the public and can be booked via the link below. The sessions are:

- **Wednesday 7 August, 5:30pm:** University lab tours including the Light Gas Gun Facility (which can shoot projectiles up to 16,700mph) along with a layout of space memorabilia, including parts of the Hubble Space Telescope
- **Thursday 8 August, 5:30pm:** University application information session led by Kent's School of Physics and Astronomy Admissions Officer. Please note this will not be Kent focussed but give advice and guidance for applications to any University.
- **Saturday 10 August, 5:30pm:** Public space observing night using the Beacon Observatory and other telescopes.

People can book onto the evening events with the following

link: https://universityofkent.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ePNoimlrVmo6wDA

If anyone has any questions about Space Week then please feel free to contact lsa@kent.ac.uk

Could you be a mind South Kent Ambassador?



**South Kent Mind are looking for Ambassadors
to help support the occasional events
throughout the year in Folkestone,
Dover/Deal, Hythe and New Romney.**

**If you have a couple of hours to spare to help out
this local charity please get in touch with us:**

 **01303 250090**

 **contact@southkentmind.org.uk**

southkentmind.org.uk
Follow us @southkentmind



What's on at...  **ROMNEY MARSH COMMUNITY HUB**

**Update from the Romney Marsh Community Hub
JUNE 2024**

Monday 3rd and 17th June - Cancer Support Group 2.30pm-4pm
All Welcome

New Seated exercise starting Wednesday 5th June 9.30-10.30am
A new seated exercise class designed specifically for those living with conditions such as Arthritis, Stroke and Parkinson's

Monday 10th June - Creative Clay Workshop 1.30pm-3.30pm £6
Please bring a container to take your item home.

Wednesday 12th June Diabetes Coffee & Catch up 1.30pm -3.30pm
Come along for a coffee and a chat

Wednesday 12th June - Digital Support Sessions 10am-1pm
Free face to face digital skills training, to build confidence in using the internet and other apps. Booking essential

Friday 14th June- Ex Armed Forces Drop in 10am-12noon
Come along for a coffee and a chat, no age barrier.

Friday 21st June -Ladies Afternoon tea with racing from Ascot. 2-4pm £12pp
3 live races from Ascot, we will be serving an assortment of Sandwiches, Savouries and cakes along with tea or coffee, Prize for Best Hat- Booking essential

Wednesday 26th June Diabetes Peer Support Group 1.30pm-3.30pm
Speakers this Month -Kent and Medway Diabetic Eye Screening Programme Manager and NHS Patients voice.
Come along and talk to others with Diabetes, gain support with various issues and get help and advice.
Booking essential as limited spaces. **Free**

Monday 24th June Sunflower & Bumble Bee Painting workshop 1.30pm -4pm
Tuition by Kerry Munn £10 per person Materials supplied, booking essential.

Friday 28th June - Ex Armed Forces Breakfast club - 9am -11am
Come along for a breakfast and a chat, no age barrier.

Charity Shops

If you go into New Romney or to Rye don't forget to visit our Charity Shops and pick up a Bargain.If you are having a Spring clean and have items to donate you can either drop them off at the shops or at the hub.

Friday Breakfast - 9am -11am
Freshly cooked to order Breakfast available between 9am-11am, no booking required.

To make all bookings please call the hub on 01797 363888

Romney Marsh Community Hub - Sunflower House, Rolfe Lane, New Romney TN28 8JR
visit: rmch.org.uk | email: hello@rmch.org.uk | Call 01797 363888



Welcome to your Futures Café
Community Café
41a Guildhall Street N,
CT20 1EF

The Futures Café is a safe space for female survivors of Domestic Abuse to meet over coffee and cake.

We are here every Tuesday 9:30-11:30, Futures Café aims to provide support for women who are experiencing or have experienced Domestic Abuse.

This is a drop-in session and no need to book. The venue is not open to the general public whilst Futures Café is open.

If you are thinking of coming along to Futures Café and would like some more information, please contact.

Co Ordinator, 07773179082 or email mel.goodban@clarionhg.com



Fraud / Scams



Rogue Traders

TO STOP FRAUD™

Reports of rogue traders being active in the Gillingham area and cold calling informing residents that their roofs need replacing or repair.

These types of offences are not isolated to any individual locations and are taking place across the county.

Remember –

- Always obtain at least 3 written quotes and never agree to work on your doorstep, no matter how tempting the offer.
- Ask family and friends for recommendations.
- Agree payment arrangements and start and finish dates in writing beforehand.
- Never pay in full until you're completely satisfied with the work.

If you think that you may have been a victim of this or any other type of scam, then contact your Bank immediately, which you can do by calling 159 and report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.

To find out more about these sorts of scam go to our website at – [Door-to-door and courier fraud | Kent Police](#)

A red infographic with white text and icons. It includes the text "Preventing fraud", "Together, let's stop scammers.", "Remember, ABC:", "never Assume", "never Believe", "always Confirm", "Get the latest scam advice:", and "@KentPoliceECU". There are also icons of a hand and a Twitter bird.

Preventing fraud

Together, let's stop scammers. 

Remember, ABC:

-  never **A**ssume
-  never **B**elieve
-  always **C**onfirm

Get the latest scam advice: 

@KentPoliceECU



WhatsApp group chats are targeted by fraudsters

WhatsApp group chat members are being warned they could be targeted by criminals, as Action Fraud reveals it has received 636 reports from victims of the messaging app this year.

The fraud often begins when a member of the group receives a WhatsApp audio call from the fraudster, pretending or claiming to be another member of the group. This is done to gain the individual's trust, and often the scammer will use a false profile picture and/or display name, so at first glance it would appear to be a genuine member of the group.

The fraudster will tell the victim they are sending them a one-time passcode which will allow them to join an upcoming video call for group members. The criminal then asks the victim to share this passcode with them so they can be "registered" for the video call.

The criminal is asking for a registration code to register the victim's WhatsApp account to a new device so they can take over their account.

Once the fraudster has access to the victim's WhatsApp account, they will enable two-step verification which makes it impossible for the victim to regain access their account. Other members of the group, or friends and family in the victim's contacts, will then be messaged asking them to transfer money urgently as they are in desperate need of help.

How to secure your WhatsApp account:

- **Set up two-step verification (2SV)** to give an extra layer of protection to your account. Tap Settings > Account > Two-step verification > Enable.
- **CALL.** If a family member or friend makes an unusual request on WhatsApp, always call the person outside of WhatsApp to confirm their identity.
- **Report spam messages or block a sender within WhatsApp.** Press and hold on the message bubble, select 'Report' and then follow the instructions.

If you live in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and have been a victim of fraud or cybercrime, report it at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040. In Scotland, victims of fraud and cybercrime should report to Police Scotland on 101.

New Published Reports

Online safety

Source: Digital Futures For Children

Date: 20 May 2024

Digital Futures For Children has published a report on the impact of legislative and regulatory measures focused on children's online privacy and safety over the period 2017–24. It finds that legislation and regulation is driving tech companies to make important child privacy and safety changes, but further research is needed to assess the full extent of the benefits. It also highlights that companies are relying on tools such as parental controls, yet evidence suggests low levels of use and efficacy, plus risks to child autonomy.

Read the report: [Impact of regulation on children's digital lives](#) (PDF)

See also on NSPCC Learning

> [Online safety resources](#)

Domestic abuse

Source: Foundations

Date: 07 May 2024

Foundations has published its new strategy to establish what works to prevent domestic abuse and to support the recovery of children affected by it. The five-year plan aims to identify proven approaches through robust impact evaluation. The plan will be delivered in 4 stages from scoping potential programmes to develop and evaluate, through to full-scale impact evaluation.

Read the plan: [The REACH plan: a five-year plan to find out what works to prevent domestic abuse & support child victims](#)

See also on NSPCC Learning

> [Protecting children from domestic abuse](#)

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

May 2024