

November Newsletter for Wye with Hinxhill



Hello all. My name is Sergeant Jazz Bloomfield from the Community Safety Unit in Ashford. Your local Officer PCSO Newell is unable to send this month's Newsletter so I have put one together for you to keep you all up to date with what has been happening in your area.

Your area is being covered by PCSO Izzy Smith and my PCSO Task Team together with the new ASB Constable. They have been patrolling all the villages regularly, dealing with nuisance vehicles and anti-social behaviour.

The Team have been keeping people up to date with activity on Twitter. Here are some recent tweets for those of you that do not use Twitter:-



Anti-Social Behaviour

There have only been 2 calls to Wye for ASB in November. Both were isolated incidents involving local people.

Halloween and Bonfire night did not generate any calls to Wye so it seems the village had a quiet time over what can be a busy few days.

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Kent Police Ashford @kentpoliceash · 23h

The Kent Independent Police Advisory Group is looking for local volunteers to represent the views of our diverse communities and act as a critical friends. Could you help to shape the future of policing? To find out more or to become a local member visit kent.police.uk/police-forces/



Kent Police Ashford @kentpoliceash · Nov 23

Local PCSO out and about on foot patrol in #Aldington and #Wye today. Please report any #AntiSocialBehaviour to us via 101 (non emergency), 999 (emergency) or at kent.police.uk/ro/report #Aldington #CommunityPolicing #ZeroTolerance LL



Kent Police Ashford @kentpoliceash · Nov 18

#Ashford has recently seen an increase in number plate thefts. Criminals will attach the stolen plate to their own #vehicle so that they can commit crimes. Report stolen registration plates to #KentPolice as soon as possible and please consider using anti-theft screws. LL



Crime overview

Wye with Hinxhill is a very low crime area with only 5 crimes reported in November.

2 of the reports were in relation to people getting into the old College site. No damage was caused.

There have been lots of reports across the Ashford District of number plates being stolen from cars.

Catalytic converters are still being stolen, sometimes during the daytime, so please report if you see anyone fiddling under a car. Honda seem to be the most targeted make.

With Christmas approaching and the darker evenings please remember to take care with what passers by your house can see through your windows, lots of presents under the tree - and don't advertise expensive gifts by leaving packaging outside your house before the refuse collection day.

Crime statistics can be found at: <https://www.police.uk/>

Alternatively, Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) send out regular updates in relation to crimes that have happened in the Ashford area. If you wish to receive these updates directly then please contact Andrew Judd who is the Volunteer and Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer. His contact details are as follows:

Tel: 01233 896151
Email: andrew.judd@kent.police.uk
Address: Ashford Police Station,
Tufton Street,
Ashford
TN23 1BT



PLEASE KEEP YOURSELVES UP TO DATE WITH THE GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES ON COVID-19 AS THEY ARE CHANGING ALL THE TIME.

The most recent announcement by the Government has said that Kent will be placed into tier three when this lockdown ends on 2nd December.



Tier 3: Very high alert

- Pubs open** for takeaways only
- Gyms open** and most outdoor sport allowed
- No household mixing** but Rule of Six allowed in certain outdoor areas
- Schools open**

Covid Tier 3 restrictions at a glance

I would encourage you to visit the UK Government website for the most up-to-date information: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Kent Fraud Alert System

On-Line Shopping Scams

During this time of lockdown and with Christmas fast approaching, many people will be turning to online shopping to purchase presents. The following hints will hopefully help you stay safe online. Please remember to always use **ABC**.

Be a safe and shopper by:

- Reading reviews from reputable sources to check websites and sellers are genuine
- Using the secure payment method recommended by reputable online retailers
- Accessing the website you're purchasing from by typing it into the web browser
- Using a credit card for purchases over £100 and up to £30,000 for added security.
- Don't accept requests rushing you to pay by bank transfer



- Avoid clicking on links in emails as they could lead to fake websites.

HMRC Self-assessment scams/Tax rebate scams

HMRC has issued a warning to self-assessment customers following reports of impersonation fraud.

HMRC issues thousands of SMS messages and emails as part of its annual Self-Assessment tax return push. HMRC is warning customers completing their returns to take care to avoid being caught out by scammers. The annual tax return deadline is on 31 January 2021.

Fraudsters use calls, emails or texts to contact customers. In the last 12 months, HMRC has responded to more than 846,000 referrals of suspicious HMRC contact from the public and reported over 15,500 malicious web pages to internet service providers to be taken down. Almost 500,000 of the referrals from the public offered bogus tax rebates.

Many scams target customers to inform them of a fake 'tax rebate' or 'tax refund' they are due. The imposters use language intended to convince them to hand over personal information, including bank details, in order to claim the 'refund'. Criminals will use this information to access customers' bank accounts, trick them into paying fictitious tax bills, or sell on their personal information to other criminals.

HMRC has a dedicated Customer Protection team that identifies and closes scams but asks the public to recognise the signs to avoid becoming a victim. HMRC regularly publishes examples of new

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scams on their website to help customers recognise phishing emails and bogus contact by email, text or phone.

It could be a scam if it:

- is unexpected
- offers a refund, tax rebate or grant
- asks for personal information like bank details
- is threatening
- tells you to transfer money.
-

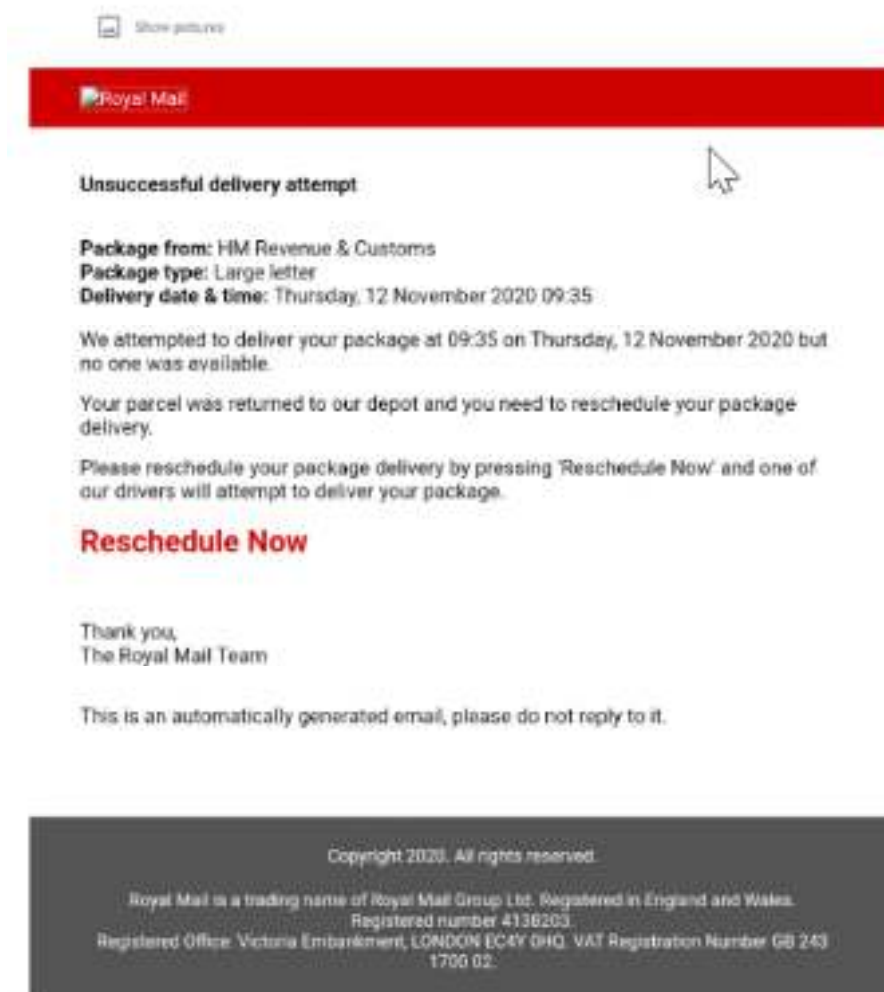
For further information visit –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/phishing-and-bogus-emails-hm-revenue-and-customs-examples>

New Post Office Phishing Scam

The below phishing email is currently circulating in the UK and we have had reports of this this being received by Kent residents.

The email informs you that you have missed a package delivery from HMRC Revenue & Customs and gives a link to reschedule the delivery. It is a scam. Do not click on any links or enter any details.



E-scooters – know the law

Although e-scooters can be great fun, it's against the law to ride one on a public road, cycle lane or pavement.

What you need to know

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 trialing the use of approved rental e-scooters as environmentally friendly modes of transport in some specific locations in the UK.

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

What should I do now?

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

We are obliged to act 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.



From now on, please make sure you **only use your e-scooter on private land.**

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

Contacting Kent Police

-  Find your answer online. Browse our A to Z question finder www.kent.police.uk/askthepolice
-  Email your local policing team. Visit www.kent.police.uk/yourarea
-  For non-urgent issues, call **101**
-  In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger, call **999**
-  If deaf or speech impaired, text 'police' and your message to **60066**
-  Find us on Facebook
-  Follow us on Twitter @kent_police or find your local account at www.kent.police.uk/yourarea
-  Follow us on Instagram @kent_police

 **Kent Police** www.kent.police.uk

Police do not monitor community Facebook, Twitter, neighbour next door apps etc...and these are not the correct way to report things going on, otherwise we are unaware and unable to help you in your community.

I hope you have found this newsletter interesting. Please feel free to share it with others



Police Sergeant 9179 Jazz Bloomfield
Community Safety Unit | Ashford Police Station