RUCKINGE NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2023.



Sadly, this will contain much of November's message as the time is right to ramp our prevention advice as criminals will be coming hard at us in December and into the January sales time.
Am I saying the same? Am I reminding? Am I nagging? Yes, to all three if we are going to be crime free!
Again, the Christmas alerts are,
INTERNET SHOPPING PARCELS STLOEN FROM DOORSTEPS
This is a major crime trend at present across many districts.

1 Parcels are vulnerable to be taken in built up town areas by a passing "chancers and opportunists" just walking by and the parcel is on the doorstep and is taken.

2 The more worry growing trend is that the delivery vehicles are followed by criminals and that means even the most isolated and rural of locations could now become a victim of theft from a doorstep.



CRIME

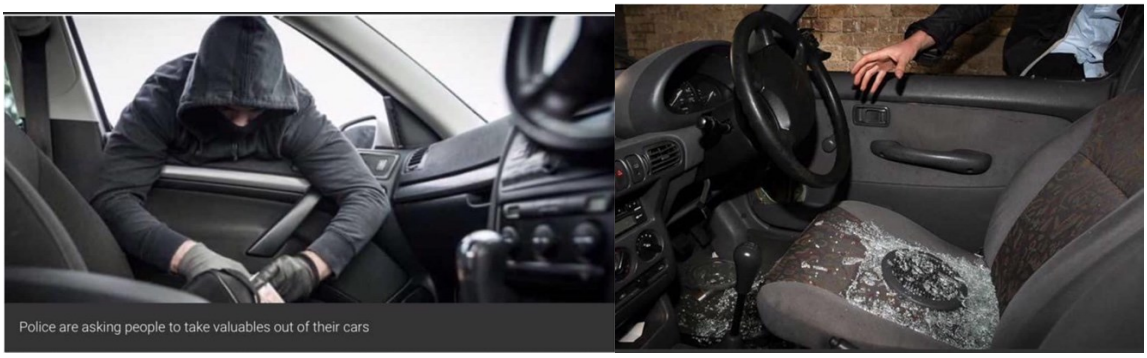
Parcel thefts rise from doorsteps as gangs follow courier vans



Please try to make safe delivery arrangements and neighbours working together can be a simple solution.

The next concern is that we start our Christmas shopping, and we drive to shopping venues and trundle around the shops picking up our Christmas presents. Tired and shattered we return the parcels to our car and head off for welcome refreshments. Our job is done, and we relax, this is where criminals come alive. They walk around car parks looking in cars and if they see those presents which you have bought, they will strike, and you are now a victim of crime!
These crimes are avoidable and preventable. Take a few moments think safe!

As you know my advice is that nothing must be left on show in a car/vehicle when parking especially last park up for the night. Please use my 10 seconds parking rule. Park and lock your car, stand, and just look inside for 10 seconds. Can you see anything? If you can so can a criminal!!



As always, I must take a moment to warn of the threat of "SCAMS"
Again, in the run into Christmas criminals will increase their efforts to scam people and we must match that with a resolve not to be victims.
Our phones, our computers, laptops, and tablets will be full of tempting offers. Offers will come by post and maybe even to your front door face to face.
PLEASE DO NOTHING IN A RUSH, CHECK and CHECK AGAIN and if in doubt DO NOTHING!

We have gone from Black Friday, into the Xmas online shopping and then we enter the January sales. ALL FANTASTIC BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCAMMERS AND CRIMINALS

Other crime trends I would like you to be aware of at this time.

Care with Christmas shopping watch, those purses and wallets especially in supermarkets. Do not leave purses on open shopping bags as you go and pick up the Stilton!

Thefts from vehicles packed ready to travel early the next morning for a family Christmas. Criminals will walk the streets Christmas Eve nights just looking for ready packed cars!

We know Father Christmas stores presents in sheds so as not to overload his sleigh, **So do criminals !** We also store extras drinks and supplies in sheds **criminals know this !**

Great care Christmas morning if its good weather. Children playing in the streets with all forms of new toys. As Christmas dinner is called bikes, scooters skates and every form of toy is left on house paths and front gardens. That is why criminals give up their Xmas lunch and just drive round in vans picking up all those items.

Please ensure all crimes and attempted crimes are reported to the police and do not be frightened to ring 999 if you feel a crime is in progress or about to happen.

It is the support of the Ruckinge Parish council and the councillors with their support for the NHW work and indeed for me personally that enhances the work and its capabilities to help communities especially our vulnerable members in the community stay crime free and importantly free from the fear of being a victim of crime.

I had the opportunity to meet one to one with the Kent Crime Commissioner Matthew Scott. He is a great supporter of my work and for Neighbourhood Watch.
He sees the new Beat officers in communities working together with NHW as the bedrock of policing in Kent. We discussed a full range of topics, but good strong communications were at the heart of our discussions going into 2024.

Office of the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner's posts

Office of the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner
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Always great to meet Neighbourhood Watch Network and Peter New. Thank you for coming to see us, but also thank you to the Neighbourhood Watch members who help keep our streets safe in #kent and #medway. 🙏



“Crime cannot flourish in communities that care” and I just get that feeling that everyone in Ruckinge cares!!
Please join Neighbourhood Watch, its free my details are below. The more we are the stronger we are.

May I close by wishing everyone and your families a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy Happy New Year.

For January 2024 I will be setting out my plan to help keep communities safe and secure and as crime free as we possibly can
Take care, stay safe, secure, alert, and vigilant.

Best wishes and regards to you all.

Peter
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Kent Police Volunteer & Community Neighbourhood Watch

