NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH RUCKINGE APRIL 2024

An area of growing concern is dog attacks on livestock in the countryside. Please take great care when enjoying a country stroll with your dog. Please keep your dog on a lead near animals and cattle. Remember it is not just the avoidable suffering and injury caused to innocent animals, but also the loss of livelihood of a farmer.







Just another crime prevention tip.
If you drive to a rural setting and park and go off for a long walk. Please consider what you leave in a vehicle, even if it is locked in the boot. Cars that will be left parked and unattended for long periods can be targeted.
Travelling to railway station car parks and shopping centres in other towns also require care when parking with items left inside cars.





LEAVE NOTHING ON SHOW IN A PARKED CAR ESPECIALLY LAST PARK UP FOR THE NIGHT

Residents need to be alert to Bogus Callers and Rogue Traders as Spring arrives.

Never agree to unsolicited work on your doorstep no matter how attractive the price. Once work has started the price changes and criminals can become aggressive for demands for money. **DO NOT HESTITATE TO CALL 999** if persons refuse to withdraw.

Beware of **suspicious callers**



Most people who call at your home are genuine.

But sometimes people may turn up unannounced and try to:

- Trick their way into your home to steal valuables or money
- Sell you services or items you do not want or need
- Carry out unnecessary repairs to your home at inflated prices.

If concerned about someone calling at your home, **don't open your door**.

You can also:

- Ask for identification and call their company yourself (not on a number they provide) to check they are genuine
- Never leave your door unattended
- Ask the visitor to return another time when someone can be with you.

Kent Police

Contacting Kent Police
Report a non-urgent crime online **www.kent.police.uk/report**
Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 **www.kent.police.uk/contact**
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**
www.kent.police.uk

Kent Fraud Alert System

TAKE FIVE TO STOP FRAUD™

Rogue Traders

We have seen an increase in reports of this type of criminality recently.

Opposite is our leaflet on how you can protect yourself against these types of scams.

If you think that you may have been a victim of this 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.



Protect yourself and others against rogue traders

Most people who call at your home are genuine. But sometimes people may turn up unannounced and try to sell you services or items you do not want or need or carry out unnecessary repairs to your home at inflated prices.

If you're concerned about someone calling at your home, **don't open your door**.

You can:

- Ask for identification and call their company yourself (not on a number they provide) to check they are genuine
- Ask the visitor to return another time when someone can be with you
- Get three written quotes
- Ask family and friends for recommendations
- Agree payment arrangements and start and finish dates in writing beforehand, and never pay in full until you're completely satisfied with the work.

Preventing fraud

Together, let's stop scammers.

Remember, ABC:

never Assume
never Believe
always Confirm

Get the latest scam advice: **@KentPoliceECU**

Pressurised selling on your doorstep is a crime and you can report it:

- **kent.gov.uk/tradingstandards** or call 0808 223 1133
- For advice: **www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/**
- Follow **@kent_ECU** or email **kfas@ecis.police.uk**

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To help protect vulnerable persons I can badge up their properties to try to discourage unwanted callers to their doors.
If anyone has an elderly relative in Ashford District who may need this help, please contact me. I can include your contact details into my NHW systems so you can be alerted also to any crime concerns in their area.
Sometimes advice over a cup of tea with a relative may help to get the safety message across.
I call this work **OPERATION GUARDIAN ANGEL**





Thank you,
Peter New (peternew1@aol.com)
Kent Police Volunteer & Community Neighbourhood Watch.