RUCKINGE MONTHLY NEWS JUNE 2024.

I know I must sound like a broken record, but these are the areas where you remain vulnerable to criminals in **RUCKINGE.**

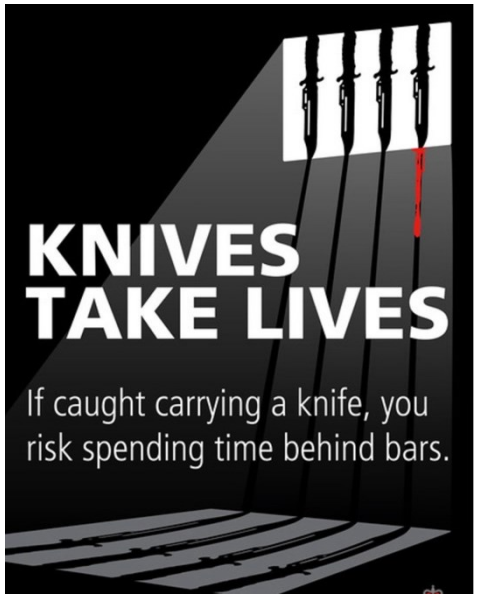
Leave nothing on show in parked vehicles especially last park up for the night.
Care with vans with tools left inside overnight. Please park as secure as possible.
Sheds, garages, barns, stables, outbuildings and any form of external storage.
Care with internet shopping parcels stolen from doorsteps as the vans are now followed by criminals.
Rogue Traders and Bogus Callers, please do not agree to any unsolicited work on your doorsteps no matter how attractive the price.
SCAMS, remember there is a scam for anything and everything. Do nothing whatsoever in a rush and please check. If in doubt DO NOTHING AT ALL!

I have decided to issue some warnings of knife crime that has struck many areas of the country. Not just our inner cities but quieter rural towns and locations
The incidents involving the death of young persons have been heart breaking and stunned the general population of our country.

Knife crimes ruin the lives of everyone involved. Injuries and loss of life by victims.
Lives destroyed by the persons who carried out the crimes.
Families of all the persons involved are devasted and shattered by the events.











KNIVES AND YOUNG PEOPLE

SOME PRACTICAL TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Know what knives and other items you have in the kitchen and toolbox. Check that they are all there
- Keep tabs on what is delivered to your home and look out for any online purchases. Knives can come in all shapes and sizes; recently a US company was found to be advertising on Instagram, knives disguised as lipsticks and combs – clearly aimed at young women
- Keep engaged with kids' lives; keep an eye on their social media accounts
- Think about searching their bag and room – is there evidence of drugs, extra money, new clothes?
- Consider other hiding places
- Remember it might not be a knife but some other weapon
- Know where they are and who they are with
- Encourage them to hang out in safe areas wherever possible

REMEMBER - The conversation that you have today could save someone's life tomorrow.

#starttheconversation

Police and charities that work in the area of violent crime agree that the best way to reduce street violence and the use of knives is to stop young people from carrying them in the first place. This will only happen through education; young people need to be better informed about the dangers and the consequences of carrying knives.

Too many young people still believe that carrying a knife will help them defend themselves, or that if you stab someone in a certain place on their body, that won't cause serious injury.

This leaflet aims to help parents and other adults to raise the subject with young people and have the conversation to improve their awareness and understanding.

All young people should be encouraged to have this conversation – **EVEN IF YOU DON'T THINK IT IS RELEVANT TO YOUR CHILD OR THE YOUNG PERSON THAT YOU KNOW**. It is relevant to **ALL** young people.



Turning their backs on crime
Tell them that anyone can dispose of a knife at any Word 4 Weapons knife bin, located across London and soon in Yorkshire. www.word4weapons.co.uk.

KNIFE CRIME - THE FACTS

- Young men aged 18 to 30 are at highest risk of being involved in knife crime.
- It is a criminal offence to have in a public place any item that has a blade including scissors and craft knives.
- It is illegal for anyone under 18 to buy a knife of any sort.
- It is not legal to carry a knife for self-defence.
- If you are caught by police carrying a knife, even if it was for your protection or you were carrying it for someone else, you will be arrested and prosecuted.
- If you use a knife, even in self-defence, you could be charged with assault with intent, or even worse.
- You can go to prison even if you didn't use the knife.
- Police can stop and search anyone they believe is carrying a knife.
- If you carry a knife there is a much higher chance that you will get stabbed yourself, than if you don't carry one.
- If someone is injured or killed by a knife in your presence, you could be prosecuted even if you didn't touch the knife. You could even go to prison for murder in what is called 'joint enterprise'.
- There is no 'safe place' to stab someone. A wound in the arm or leg can still kill someone, and if a knife punctures an artery you can bleed to death within five minutes.
- A criminal record for knife use or possession can stop you from being accepted into college or university, and make it harder to get a job. Many countries won't let you in, such as the USA and Australia.

Thank you all for your support.
Peter

Peter New
Kent Police Volunteer & Community Neighbourhood Watch