RUCKINGE NEWSLETTER OCT 2026

As always, I am very grateful for the opportunity to write in Ruckinge website.
I enjoy an excellent relationship with the council and the clerk Peter, along with all councillors.. The whole council set are very supportive to NHW work and to me personally. That bodes very well for the community and it's residents.
My work focuses on all routine crimes but Anti Social Behaviour, Catapults, E-scooters, Off Road Bikes remain constant concerns along with thefts of internet shopping parcels from doorsteps especially as delivery vans are now followed. That risk will increase as we approach the run into Xmas but hopefully will miss Ruckinge but be aware.

Parcel thefts rise from doorsteps as gangs follow courier vans





I am always alert to SCAMS, Rogue Traders and `Bogus callers.

Violence Against Women & Girls remains high on my workload list, and of course the question isn't "Are women safe"? but "Do they feel safe" ?

I am able to report a very positive meeting with the new Chief Inspector in charge of Ashford Police, Jennifer Bassan. After a difficult relationship with the last post holder, I am very confident I can do good business for the community with this officer.

The three main areas of focus in coming weeks will be

1. HALLOWEEN
2. HALF TERM HOLIDAYS
3. NOVEMBER THE 5th and FIRWORKS

All three have a potential for an increase in Anti Social Behaviour and all associate aspects of that.

I need to be especially alert for our elderly, vulnerable and those groups where people live alone.

I can also report a very positive meeting with the Police Crime Commissioner Matthew Scott who I meet face to face one to one twice a year to update him on my work and to hear of any crime concerns he has that needs my work focused on.



The commissioner has been a tremendous support to me personally over many years and the meetings are always very positive and focused for communities.
It is always a very frank plain speaking meeting to ensure good outcomes and a plan going forwards.

Front and centre of those discussions were the implications for communities, victims, and the police of the **EARLY RELEASE OF PRISONERS SCHEME.**
This will require considerable input and guidance from me to the community and there will be a need for us all to be ready to support victims who may be confronted by criminals who should still be serving prison sentences and signpost them to support from the police.
Victims of sexual crimes and domestic violence will need special attention and support.

As always our vulnerable residents will be a target for criminals and NHW works tirelessly to prevent those at risk.

With Neighbourhood Watch, the more we are the stronger we are so when you have read this don't put off joining NHW please contact me, and my email is below.
Its complete free, I do not bombard you with emails but if I do write then that's the one to read!
Stay safe, secure, alert and vigilant.
Thank you for your support
Peter

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