

# Newsletter

Summer 2021



## Welcome

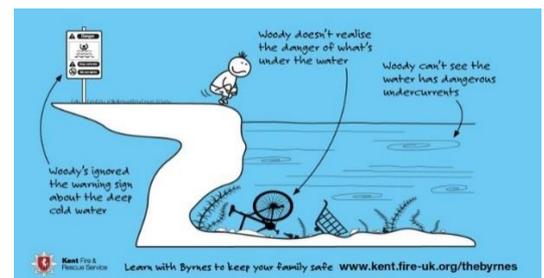
Welcome to this edition of the Tonbridge and Malling Community Safety Partnership (CSP) newsletter. The aim of the newsletter is to provide regular updates on some of the work of the Community Safety Partnership.

In this edition you'll find details about how to keep safe in water, summer holidays events for young people taking place, reporting anti-social behaviour and how to keep your shed items safe.

For further details about any of these items please contact Alison Finch, Safer & Stronger Communities Manager on [Alison.finch@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:Alison.finch@tmbc.gov.uk) or Anthony Garnett, Head of Service, Licensing, Community Safety and Customer Service ([Anthony.garnett@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:Anthony.garnett@tmbc.gov.uk)).

## Water Safety

At this time of the year (and particularly in the warm weather) it can be very tempting to jump into lakes and rivers; however the water may look safe but can be dangerous. Outdoor water is very cold and can quickly cause cramp and breathing difficulties. It is often far deeper than people think and there may be hidden currents. There may also be hidden underwater hazards and weeds that can cause entanglement that cannot be seen from land. It can also be difficult to get out.



The CSP doesn't want to spoil anyone's fun but we do want to make sure that everyone stays safe. Please don't jump into water when you don't know how deep it is. In two of the Borough Council's Country Parks (Leybourne Lakes and Haysden Country Park in Tonbridge) unauthorised swimming is prohibited and you could be given an £80 if you are seen in the water.

The CSP was able to obtain funding through the Kent County Council Reconnect Grant to run water safety events in the borough for young people and one of these was held at Tonbridge Racecourse Sports ground on 27 July. Over 40 young people attended and were able to speak to Kent Fire and Rescue Service, the Environment Agency and others about water safety. They were even able to take part in a water fight!

Another water safety event has been arranged for Saturday 14 August from 2pm at Leybourne Lakes Country Park (weather dependent). Any one is welcome to come along and talk to Kent Fire & Rescue Service and other agencies about keeping safe in and around water.

## Summer holiday activities for young people

We know that young people can get bored during the school summer holidays, so working with our partners we provide some funding to run schemes (at low or free cost) so that young people have something they can get involved with.

This year the Y2 Crew summer holiday scheme will run from 26 July to 13 August. Activities on offer will include street dance, fishing and graffiti art. Activities are all free but must be pre-booked. Further details can be found at [www.tmbc.gov.uk/y2crew](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/y2crew)

Other organisations in the borough are also offering activities for young people including Salus who will be running events in East Malling and Snodland. Further details about these events can be found at <https://salusgroup.org.uk/service/youth-service/tonbridge-malling-district/>

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## Getting help with anti-social behaviour



Tackling anti-social behaviour is a key priority for the Community Safety Partnership and there are a variety of different ways for people who are experiencing anti-social behaviour (ASB) to report this to agencies who can help resolve their issues.

Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council have an online reporting form [Help tackle crime and anti-social behaviour – Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council \(tmbc.gov.uk\)](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk) or you can call 01732 844522.

Kent Police also have an online reporting form [How to report antisocial behaviour | Kent Police](http://www.kent.police.uk) or you can phone 101 in a non-emergency or 999 in an emergency.

If you are a housing association tenant you can also report anti-social behaviour directly to them.

If your anti-social behaviour is continuing and you have reported at least three incidents of anti-social behaviour to a relevant organisation (e.g. the Council, Police, Social Landlord) within the previous six months and these are incidents where the same behaviour, nuisance or problem has reoccurred and where you feel that no effective action has been taken then you can apply for a **Community Trigger**.

If your application meets the threshold then a Review Panel would be held to discuss your case and look at whether any further actions could or should be taken. You would be kept informed during this process. Further details about the Community Trigger and how to apply can be found at [www.tmbc.gov.uk](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk)

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## White Ribbon Award for Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council

Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council have taken a stand to end all male violence against women by becoming White Ribbon Accredited. White Ribbon is a global campaign that encourages people, and especially men and boys, to individually and collectively take action and change the behaviour and culture that leads to abuse and violence. To wear a white ribbon is to promise to never to commit, excuse or remain silent about male violence against women.



Further details can be found at [www.tmbc.gov.uk](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk)

# Domestic Abuse One Stop Shop

The One Stop Shop for Domestic Abuse has now reopened offering face to face support to victims of domestic abuse. This is held at 4 New Wharf Road, Tonbridge every Wednesday from 9am until noon. You do not need to make an appointment, just turn up to get advice and support from agencies who can help you, whatever your situation.

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## Neighbourhood Engagement meetings

The Community Safety Partnership is arranging a number of Neighbourhood Engagement meetings (NEMs) which will take place across the borough throughout the year.



The aim of the meetings are to allow residents the chance to talk to Kent Police, Kent County Council and Borough Council representatives about community safety issues of concern (i.e. anti-social behaviour, criminal activities etc.) and then the representatives can look at any appropriate actions that can be taken to address these issues.

Future meetings have been arranged for Wednesday 22 September and Wednesday 8 December. These will start at 7pm and will be held via Microsoft Teams. If you would like to attend the meeting please email [csp@tmbsc.gov.uk](mailto:csp@tmbsc.gov.uk) to register your interest.



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## Tackling nuisance vehicles



The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has been worked to address the issues caused by nuisance motorbikes at the former Oakdene Café site in Wrotham. Over a number of years this location has been used by motorcyclists to meet and the majority of those meetings do so peacefully and without any issues. However, a small minority have been causing issues such as racing on the surrounding road and doing stunts in the road.

In order to tackle this the CSP has put a number of actions into place to prevent these issues. These actions included increased police presence on the nights when the gatherings are taking place, engaging with the motorcyclists and working with the Parish Council and Kent County Council to change the landscape in the surrounding area.

We hope that these actions will help to see a decrease in the amount of those causing a problem and make the area nicer for residents who are affected by the issues.

## Shed burglaries

At this time of year burglaries to sheds or other outbuildings can increase. Make sure that you keep your shed secure by:

- Installing a shed alarm, with a notice displayed to warn thieves that it is not worth the effort of breaking in. The alarms are easy to install and can be purchased at most DIY stores.
- Make sure the door is securely locked at all times.
- Ensure all valuable property is marked with your postcode. Post coding property makes your belongings very unattractive to a thief by making items easily identifiable and difficult to sell.
- Lock up pedal cycles. Use bike locks and chain them inside to other large items or to the shed.
- Keep a record of the make, model and ID numbers of bicycles and all other equipment and take photographs of unusual items. You can use [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com) to record your items. This is free to use and helps the Police to identify owners of recovered property.

Further crime prevention tips can be found at [Crime prevention advice | Kent Police](#)

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## Preventing doorstep criminals

Unfortunately, Kent County Council have been receiving reports of doorstep criminals in our area. This could be people who claim that your roof needs repairing, your chimney stacks are dangerous, or your tree is diseased. Below is some advice if you think something is not quite right.

- Call Kent Police on 101
- Never open the door to cold callers.
- Report to Kent Police on 999 if you feel threatened.
- If you need work done use verified and safe traders on [Trading Standards Checked](#) .
- Always get three quotes before agreeing to any work.

You can report any concerns to <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/get-more-help/report-to-trading-standards/>

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## Useful contact details

Community Safety Unit	<a href="mailto:csp@tmbc.gov.uk">csp@tmbc.gov.uk</a>	01732 844522
TMBC ASB Officer	Contact the Borough Council for help with ASB issues	01732 844522
Kent Police	To report a non 999 call	101
KCC Community Wardens	Contact Sandra Edmonds, Team Leader	07969 584183
DAVSS	Offer support for victims of Domestic Abuse	01892 570538
Maidstone Mediation	Support to help resolve conflicts or disputes	01622 692843
West Kent Mediation	Support to help resolve conflicts or disputes	01732 469696

### Newsletter produced by Tonbridge and Malling CSP

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