Dear Kent Residents

This week we received reports of doorstep criminals in Maidstone and Canterbury. As summer approaches criminals cold call on unsuspecting households offering convincing deals to try to get you to agree to having work carried out. We know that if you accept work from a doorstep criminal you'll pay much more than you intended for very poor, unnecessary and sometimes dangerous work.

Never respond to cold callers! Request a free NO COLD CALLERS door sticker <u>here</u>.

If you need work done on your home or garden use a safe, local trader that's been vetted by <u>Kent Trading Standards</u>.

Report doorstep criminals in your area to Kent Police on 101. If you feel threatened call 999.

Please continue to update friends and family. For scam alerts as they are issued please add us on Instagram or Facebook.

Thank you.

Mark Rolfe

Head Community Protection

Community Warden Jackie West collaborated with Compaid to set up digital support sessions twice a month at the Community Hub in New Ash Green Village Hall. The Community Hub and Memory/Carers Café now benefit from this support, helping people navigate their digital needs, open up their worlds and enrich their lives.

One resident had an appointment to set up a music app on her phone, allowing her family to create musical memories for her, marking memorable moments in her life. She shared the following statement with Jackie:

"I am very grateful for the IT help I received. I urgently needed Spotify this morning to listen to something sent by my family. By lunchtime, not only was it sorted, but I was able to hear it and reply with another choice! Yet another worthwhile service added to the Hubs."

Find your local warden

We received a report that a resident had a direct debit set up on their account without their approval. The resident made an online purchase, but their details were then used to set up a direct debit without their permission.

- Please warn friends and family and always check your bank statement to ensure that criminals haven't obtained your bank details and set up a direct debit to steal money from you.
- Report suspicious activity to your bank by calling 159.
- For advice contact Citizens Advice consumer helpline 0808 223 1133
- ▲ Warn friends and family

X Criminals are impersonating Police Officers claiming they have arrested people with the residents bank card and advising them to ring 999 without disconnecting the call.

- In the Police would NEVER telephone and ask for your bank card and pin number to be collected by a courier or withdraw cash or buy gold to assist in an investigation.
- Always check the dialing tone after your call to ensure scammers are not still on the phone, use another telephone if possible or call a trusted friend first.
- if you have been a victim of this scam, contact your bank immediately by calling 159 and report it to Kent Police on 101.
- Watch the video on courier fraud to find out more

⚠ Asda recalls Asda Simple To Cook Asian Inspired Pork Belly Slices because of undeclared milk and sulphites

Product details

Asda Simple To Cook Asian Inspired Pork Belly Slices

Pack size: 380g Use by: 25 April

Allergens: Milk, Sulphur dioxide and/or sulphites

Advice to consumers

If you have bought the above product and have an allergy or intolerance to milk or milk constituents and/or a sensitivity to sulphur dioxide and/or sulphites, do not eat it. Instead return it to the store from where it was bought for a full refund.

→ More information

Product details

Sofra Potato Chips Seasoning

Pack size: 100g

Lot number: All lot numbers

Best before: All best before dates

Advice to consumers

If you have bought any of the above products and have an allergy to peanuts, do not eat it. Instead return it to the store from where it was bought for a full refund. For more information, please contact 0208 575 8800 or info@damasgate.uk.com.

→ More information

<u>Trading Standards Checked</u> carries out checks on traders so customers can have peace of mind when choosing a tradesperson to do work in their home.

Please help to keep your family and community safe.

If you need work done in your home or garden, <u>visit the website</u> to find a safe, local tradesperson.