Newington newsletter



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May 2025

Your local officer is Police Officer

Jez Chittim

Incidents of Note

Swale wide there has been a sharp increase in fraud incidents. Swale residents have been reporting that they have received phone calls from someone claiming to be a police officer. They give a fake police officer name and force number and state they are part of the Economical Crime Team at Sittingbourne Police Station (There isn't such a department in Sittingbourne). They claim there have been some irregularities spotted within the bank account of the person they are calling before requesting the person hangs up and calls the police. The criminal pretending to be a police officer will keep the line open their end and when the poor victim calls 999, they will pretend to be a police call taker where they then ask for the victim's bank details. Thankfully those that have reported these incidents to the police have not given out their bank details and become a victim of this crime. However, historically this type of crime is under reported through embarrassment and shame. There is nothing to be embarrassed or ashamed of; these criminals are highly sophisticated and unfortunately very good at what they do. If you or someone you know has been a victim of this type of crime, please advise they call their bank first and then call the police on 101 and report it. The sooner it is reported, the more likely it is we can prevent the loss of your money.

Speedwatch

 I requested Speedwatch Kent carry out some speed checks in Callaway's Lane, Newington following an issue regarding speeding being raised by a local resident. Speedwatch conducted a speed check on Thursday 8th May 2025 between 1600 hours and 1700 hours. The results are as follows:

Total Number of Cars

56

Number speeding

6

Speeds recorded ranged from 25 to 28 mph



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The Speedwatch team engaged with local residents and many showed their appreciation, however politely stated that the time of these checks was possibly a little too early and suggested carrying out these checks a little later. The Speedwatch team on that information returned on Tuesday 20th May 2025 between 1730 hours and 1830 hours. The results are as follows:

- Total Number of CarsNumber speeding6
- Speeds recorded ranged from 25 to 27 mph for all drivers bar one young male driver who flew past us at 37 mph. The data has been entered on the CSW website (https://communityspeedwatch.org/FRONT-v2-Home.php)

It was reported that only seconds before the vehicle which went by at 37 mph, a young child had been turning their scooter around in the road. At 37 mph, if a pedestrian is hit by a car the risk of death is 1 in 3. At 20 mph you are unlikely to be hit as the driver has greater time to stop in time and avoid such a collision. Please all adhere to the 20MPH speed limit throughout Newington and keep everyone safe on the roads whether other road users or pedestrians.

