

# The Law



The newspaper of Essex Police

Issue 359

September 2004



Off-road fun and frolics - page 8



Youngsters have their say - page 5



Protecting our shores - page 3

# DRIVING UP DETECTIONS

## Calling closing time



**DOWN THE DRAIN: Pc Vince Bird discards confiscated alcohol.**

*Photo: Evening Echo*

UNDERAGE drinking has been hitting the headlines with youngsters openly drinking in the streets, but officers undertaking special operations believe they are making their mark.

Last month *The Law* reported how Southend has been selected by the Home Office to help determine the scale of the problem of alcohol-related crime, and to proactively tackle it.

In the meantime, divisions across the county are working to educate the teenagers and crack down on

offences.

In Basildon, for instance, officers turned out in force in August stopping youths aged between 14 and 17 who were openly drinking on the street.

Drinks were confiscated, 13 people were cautioned, and letters are sent to all parents. This was a marked improvement on the previous month when 40 were stopped and 87 bottles of drink taken.

During the second operation a 'change in attitude' was also noted in the youngsters.

## POSITIVE action is being taken to drive up detections and bring more offenders to justice in Essex.

Public confidence in the police service relies heavily on high levels of performance, especially in the area of crime detection. Victims, in particular, need to see a positive outcome to the crimes committed against them.

Sanctioned detections are seen as a key factor in delivering this service. Often referred to as a positive disposal, they are detections which ensure that justice is seen to be done whether it be a charge, a caution, an anti-social behaviour order or offences taken into consideration.

Assistant Chief Constable Liam Briggins, who is leading the push to increase sanctioned detections said: "One of the best ways of reducing crime and improving victim and witness satisfaction is to detect crimes that have been committed. Whilst there is a small place for administrative detections, we need to increase the numbers of positive disposals. We have challenging but achievable targets that will help keep Essex a safe place, and I have been impressed at the way both officers and police staff are rising to this challenge."

There are clearly occasions when a case is effectively resolved but doesn't result in any positive disposal, for instance a victim not wanting to pursue a complaint, but in these cases a Detected No Prosecution (DNP) should always be a last resort. Essex Police is determined to increase positive disposals for hate crime such as

## by Kim Perks

domestic violence and racial incidents.

Officers and police staff around the county are being encouraged to make full use of the analytical capability in force and exploit the forensic evidence available to secure a conviction.

One fingerprint or DNA identification has the potential to lead to numerous detections. The use of automatic number plate recognition systems, to deny criminals the use of the road, is also being encouraged. Productivity on sanctioned detections has increased dramatically in divisions that regularly deploy these systems.

## Commitment

The emphasis on sanctioned detections is interlinked with the new Crime Investigation Policy and the ACTION leadership programme. The key is a commitment to providing a quality customer-focused approach to crime recording, investigation and detection.

Case action plans will ensure the appropriate prioritisation of investigations and monitoring of progress and performance by supervisors. The goal, as with sanctioned detections, is bringing offenders to justice, preventing further crimes being committed and providing public reassurance.

A number of divisions are providing local training for officers and supervisors in improving quality-focused investigations. A new policy on dealing with fraud and deception cases should also reduce the time taken to deal with enquiries but improve satisfaction rates of victims.

A succinct but comprehensive guide to sanctioned detections will appear on the intranet shortly.

For examples of how divisions are succeeding in their bid to drive up detections see page 5.

# Know your pension

I HAVE been asked to re-do a précis on the police pensions scheme. The regulations are very complicated and it would not be possible to cover every circumstance but I will try to give the basic outline.

All police pensions are paid as a proportion of the officer's average pensionable pay (APP), decided by several factors. An ordinary pension is paid after 25 years' or more reckonable police service (but less than 30 years). For each of the first 20 years, an officer earns a pension of 160ths of their APP. Each year after 20 earns them 260ths more, so that an officer with 25 years' service has 20 plus 1060ths, which entitles them to a half pay pension.

An officer can retire with 25 years' service and take their pension immediately if they have reached 50, or have 30 years' service. If an officer with 25 years' service retires but is aged, for example, 48 years, their pension is not paid until they reach the age of 50. If an officer resigns with 24 years' service, their pension is frozen until they are 60.

It follows, then, that an officer who has served 26 years will achieve a pension of 3260ths, 27 years will earn 3460ths and so on, **subject to a maximum pension of 40/60ths for 30 years or more service.** Even if an officer serves for 40 years, they cannot get more than 4060ths of APP.

An officer who is required to retire on

## Federation Newsline

by Terry Spelman



age limit will be allowed to take a pension related to their service at that age. If, for example, they have 29 years' service, they will have a pension of 3860ths. The age limit for constables and sergeants is 55, 60 for inspectors and above and 65 for chief officers.

Under certain circumstances, officers of lower ranks may obtain extensions of the age limit after 55 on a 12-monthly basis, which may add entitlement to pension, but not beyond 60 years.

An officer required to retire on ill health will receive a pension which is enhanced beyond his actual years of service. There are some basic rules which govern these enhancements:

- Service from five to ten years reckons as double.
- Ten to 13 years counts as 20 years.
- 14 years and above attracts an additional seven years (that is to say an extra 760ths of APP).

The normal double reckoning after 20 years continues and the 760ths enhancement is applied after double reckoning has been taken into account.

All enhancement is subject to the

qualification that reckonable service aggregated with the enhancement must not exceed what could have been earned by the officer working to the age of compulsory retirement. To calculate the officer's entitlement to pension, the following definitions are necessary:

**Average pensionable pay** is normally the amount of pay received in the last year of service, excluding overtime and allowances. If this declines towards the end of service (i.e. through

demotion) APP is taken as pay in the best of the last three years.

**Reckonable service** is the length of service which counts for police pension and it may include service 'transferred' from other employments. There is a comprehensive list of 'other employments' who have agreed to pay a transfer fee into the police pension scheme for service to be reckonable. (This is reciprocal if an officer takes up employment with these organisations.)

## Think carefully about commutation

THE first way in which police pensions may be commuted to achieve a lump sum advance or a portion of expected pension entitlement, relates to voluntary retirement after 25 years, but before attaining 30 years (unless retiring on age limit or ill health). In this case, the lump sum is calculated as 380ths of APP for each year of service for the first 20 years, plus a further 380ths for each six months over 20 years.

The second method is where an officer has completed 30 years, reached age limit, or ill health. A maximum of one quarter of annual pension can be commuted. For each £100 of pension given up a capital sum will be received according to age next birthday (see table). In both methods there is a reduction in pension each year. The maximum that can be commuted is 25 per cent. However, it is possible to work in round figures and commute less.

Index linking is only applied to the pension still in payment at age 55 years. Retirement pension is treated as earned income and is taxed accordingly. The

lump sum is tax free but, if invested, any interest is treated as unearned income. Once taken, commutation cannot be restored to pensions.

The decision to commute is a personal one related to your needs and ambitions. There are no hard and fast rules. Each officer must make their own decision whether to use the facility or not.

You may indicate your wishes to commute within two months prior to retirement and not later than six

Age next birthday	Capital sum for £100 of pension	
	Men £	Women £
50 and under	1500	1725
51	1500	1725
52	1490	1705
53	1480	1685
54	1465	1660
55	1450	1625
56	1425	1600
57	1390	1575
58	1355	1550
59	1320	1520
60	1300	1500

## Acting and temporary roles

THE main difference between acting up and temporary promotion is that in the former an officer remains a constable and in the latter an officer becomes a sergeant.

For temporary promotion an officer must have passed both parts of the OSPRE exam but in the cases of both acting and temporary the arrangement can cease at any time.

The distinction between the two leads to several important differences in practice, such as pay and probation.

• Any constable can be asked to act up and a constable can be required to act up even though he or she is not keen to do so. A disciplinary offence may, therefore, be committed by an officer who refuses, although as a matter of good management, requests should be made with consent. In addition, there may be health and safety issues if an officer has had inadequate training for the role.

• Where constables act up for 14 full days in any year, or the appropriate amount of hours, i.e. for 14 tours of duty, they are entitled to a temporary salary for the next full day and any subsequent days in that year in which they act up. For these purposes, the year is each period of 12 months from April 1. The rate is the lowest rate of pay for sergeants.

Where an officer is engaged in a continuous period of acting up which overlaps two years, a temporary salary will be payable for the whole period. The provision has the effect of including the whole period of acting up in the previous year. In the second year, the part of the

period of acting up will not count towards the 14 days of acting up which are unpaid.

• Temporary salary constitutes pensionable pay. APP will reflect periods of paid acting up during the year before retirement.

• As a constable who acts up remains a constable, there are, therefore, no issues arising from periods of acting up which could affect the officer's position on a Constables' Branch Board.

• A constable who acts up is not qualified to be a custody officer for a designated station or, unless the custody officer is not readily available, cannot perform custody officer duties under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

• When an officer is promoted to substantive sergeant, previous periods of acting up are not reckonable as service in the rank of sergeant for pay purposes.

• Under promotion regulations, a sergeant qualifies for promotion if he or she has passed the examination and completed two years as a sergeant. Periods of acting up do not constitute service in the rank of sergeant.

• In order to qualify for temporary promotion, an officer must have passed the both parts of OSPRE, have two years' service and completed the constables' probationary period.

• An officer who is offered temporary promotion may refuse to accept the appointment. Good management practice should dictate that only an officer who is willing to accept temporary promotion should be required to do so.

# service line

INSURANCE

## 35% Discount for Police Officers

- Interest free instalments\*
- Discounts for civilian staff, retired officers and families
- Police Business Use included
- FREE 90 day foreign use cover
- FREE courtesy car (comprehensive cover only)
- Added security of a Lloyd's policy



www.serviceline.co.uk

Call now for a FREE quote  
0800 00 4121

\*Subject to status  
quote reference 'LAW'

# Car Insurance

## Putting words into ACTION

CRIME division is delivering volume crime training to all inspectors as part of the ACTION leadership programme.

Identifying the need for greater experience in tackling such investigations, inspectors have been selected to undertake a four-hour seminar.

Looking at basic volume crime investigations, crime detections and crime reduction, the seminars are led by head of investigations Det Supt Simon Coxall, supported by senior investigating officers Det Supt Gareth Wilson and Graeme Bull.

Det Supt Simon Coxall said: "We are getting back to basics and putting words into action. The training is designed to be frank, honest and thought-provoking."

The four hours combine a mix of lectures and workshops, problem-solving, group discussion and self learning in order to identify strengths and weaknesses and develop strong leadership skills.

Feedback has been positive with participants finding it a useful tool in developing and improving performance. Participant Insp Chris Bainbridge from Stansted Airport said: "This was an enjoyable and highly relevant seminar, using imaginative and impactful material."

## Help is at hand

OUTREACH youth workers will be based at Basildon, Braintree, Harlow and Rayleigh police stations to deal with referrals from police officers under a new pilot scheme launched this month.

The Ranier Rapid Action Project deals with issues that are currently outside the scope of statutory provision for young people and forms part of the Proactive Essex Police Youth Strategy.

Any officer dealing with a child or young adult aged between 5 and 13 years who receives a reprimand for an offence, commits an offence when aged under ten, is truanting from school or lives with domestic violence in their home, can be referred to the Ranier Rapid Action Project referral staff.

Their sole focus is to improve the lives of young people who come into contact with the police either as a victim or offender, and to work with their family to discuss ways forward.

Further information can be found on the Community Safety website.

# Key worker cash returns

A TOTAL of £1.5 MILLION has been made available to help police officers working, or willing to live within 35 miles of Basildon, Thurrock and Harlow to buy their own homes.

The Key Worker Living programme offers interest free loans of up to £50,000 to help recruit and retain staff in key professions.

In Essex the scheme is operated by Moat Housing Group who can advise and assist anyone interested. Whilst the loans will initially only be open to officers in three divisions, they may be more widely available if the take-up in those areas is low. The scheme is open to officers who have completed their first 26 weeks of training and

those who have at least five years to serve, and have a joint income of under £60,000.

Originally the scheme was restricted to first-time buyers but is now open to those 'trading up', and the average loan is expected to be in the region of £28,000, which means that some fifty applications could be approved.

Other options are available to Key Workers, which include new homes on a part rent/part buy basis, as well as opportunities to rent at below market rates.

Further information on the scheme and eligibility for it is available on Moat's website [www.moat.co.uk](http://www.moat.co.uk) or 07002 662846.

## Drivers still breaking drink law

THE summer drink-drive campaign yielded 138 arrests during August, with officers "amazed" at those prepared to flout the law.

A total of 3,334 roadside tests were carried out, with the 4.2 per cent hit rate a worry for police.

Road Policing Sergeant Bob Beckwith said: "Although the number of arrests may seem relatively low to some, we are still prosecuting a similar number of drivers each and every year. It is this consistent, persistent faction of motorists who we are aiming to rid the roads of."

"It does amaze me though how and why people still persist in breaking the law – a piece of legislation which has been around for decades and one which is continuously highlighted by way of numerous publicity campaigns both here in Essex and nationwide."

In August 2003, officers stopped 2,114 motorists, with 85 arrested – a four per cent hit rate.

## Youths have it covered

YOUNGSTERS in Harlow now have two new places to socialise thanks to a partnership involving Essex Police.

The pilot scheme has seen the introduction of youth shelters designed as recognised areas for youngsters to gather, whilst allowing both youth workers and police officers to build a rapport with them.

The move follows discussions at community meetings about anti-social behaviour and the facilities available to young people.

Funding has been provided by Harlow Council's Community Incentive Budget and the multi-agency Safer Harlow Partnership.

Ward councillor Lorna Spenceley said: "This is an excellent example of the council, the police and young people working together with residents to find creative solutions."

"Local young people now have their own space, which is already being well used."

## Agreement on pay deal

THIS year's pay settlement for police staff has been reached.

All staff will receive a three per cent increase with effect from the start of September.

Standby allowance is to be increased from £23.37 to £24.06.

# Crack car team takes to roads

by Helen Cook

A NEW team hits the streets this month to target those responsible for high-volume crime across the county.

The automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) intercept team will be comprised of a sergeant and six officer.

Essex has been successfully using the ANPR system on divisions and at road policing units for some time.

ANPR cameras read number plates then link to the police national computer and local intelligence databases to check details.

Also in use is a specialist 'spectrum' van but, says ANPR project manager

Sgt Paul Moor: "The force felt that the spectrum van was being under-utilised and had more potential."

The intercept team will be based at Tilbury but will cover the whole county in supporting divisions with ANPR operations and at special events. Using the Spectrum van and three new cars, a Volvo estate and two Mondeo ST220's, they will provide a highly visible, overt operation at roadside checks. The trial project will initially last for seven months and is based on a national operation piloted by other forces.

National figures show that each intercept team officer makes an average 93 arrests per year, against 12 for a patrol officer not engaged as part

of a dedicated team.

The new team, headed by Sgt Justin Smith, will be able to follow and stop drivers who don't stop at the check point. They will only be targeting the small percentage - less than one per cent - whose details are held on national and European police databases. The team will not be involved in speed enforcement operations. Once the initial investigative checks are complete they will hand over to divisions to process. Sgt Paul Moor, ANPR project manager, said: "The intercept team will form the top tier of the Essex Police ANPR strategy. The officers are all highly motivated and experienced with proven investigative skills. In this way we will utilise our police resources to only target core criminals and volume crime, so the law-abiding public can be reassured."

## Securing the county's coast

**DAY trippers to the county's seaside resorts will soon be witnessing increased armed police patrols on the Essex coastline for the remainder of the summer, as part of the force's commitment to counter-terrorism.**

**The reassurance comes at a time when more people are enjoying the waters off the coast and at a time of heightened security across the UK, yet with no specific threat to any target.**

**The high-visibility marine patrols will play an integral part in the partnership approach to ensuring the 360 miles of waterway throughout the county and on the Essex coastline remain crime free.**

Chief Insp Tim Stokes is keen to alleviate any fears members of the public may have with these increased armed patrols on the water, but is also eager to highlight the marine unit's capability in dealing with any potential terrorist threat or criminal activity.

"We have routine armed patrols at Stansted Airport to ensure public safety," said Chief Insp



● Mobile Support Division have their sights set on security.

Stokes. "Our aim is to maintain the security of the county's waterways and coastline and these waterborne armed officers should also be seen as part of our normal response to the increased terrorist threat."

The Essex coastline - the second longest in England - runs from Crayford Ness on the River Thames, up to Manningtree on the Stour, with a 12-mile radius out to sea falling within the force's jurisdiction too.

Send your letters to:  
The Law, Press  
Office, Police  
Headquarters, PO  
Box 2, Chelmsford,  
Essex CM2 6DA

# It's a small world

TALK about coincidence! I completely unexpectedly bumped into a friend who, like me, was among the first intake of Essex crime reduction advisors in April 2000. Not so unusual except for the fact that it was in Vancouver, Canada!

I retired last year and was travelling east to west across Canada and onto Alaska. Jason Sculthorpe had just arrived from Hawaii.

It was amazing meeting like that. We swapped travellers' tales over a few cold beers at a local

hotel.

Old professional interests die hard, however. We had both seen many new and novel crime reduction initiatives which we hope to be able to use back home.

Les Bramhill  
Benfleet

## Who's next?

I AM pleased to read of the national ban on police joining a certain political party (British National Party).

On the other hand, what about banning membership of the 'roll up your trousers and funny handshake brigade'.

I don't suppose this will get much mileage.

R.A. White  
Chelmsford

## Did you drive a Daimler?

I AM doing some research on Daimler SP250s and I would like assistance in identifying the various SPs that were either in the Southend Borough or the Essex County force.

I understand there were at least two, based at Laindon traffic, one white in colour the other black. What I am looking for are the chassis/registration numbers.

It would also be helpful if former drivers could give any reminiscences, photographs or anecdotes relating to the use of these cars.

Laurence Jones  
Little Baddow

## Retired detective reminisces in rhyme

**I retired in 1984 as head of Colchester CID. I have noted with interest the correspondence in *The Law* over the past few months. In particular, letters submitted by retired officers and replies by serving officers. As a writer of short stories and poems I now submit my own offering.**

Derek Wyatt, Colchester

In present times the problems faced are different from my day;  
Violent drug gangs, terrorists rarely came our way.

Communications have improved with electronic gadgetry;  
Email and computers are wonderful to see.

We were each supplied a typewriter to produce our reports upon;  
And woe betide the new recruit who had his spelling wrong!

Rural area at that time had bobbies in their midst;  
And with centralisation they were sorely missed.

All the local farmers blacksmiths, housewives too;  
Doctors, midwives, clergymen knew the man in blue.

We had no hidden cameras or satellite in the sky;  
The intelligence we gathered came from a friendly 'Hi'.

A helmet, cape and whistle were among the things we wore;  
The public had great confidence in the uniform they saw.

We often lived in colonies police houses by the score;  
And had a close togetherness we guardians of the law.

Now we have our memories of police work in the past;  
And must accept that progress will not let things last.

But as we still remember the good things we have seen and done;  
We truly know that a policeman's lot can be a happy one.

## Deputy jailed for extortion

DEPUTY Chief Constable, Charles Clark, has been sentenced to imprisonment for extortion.

Passing sentence on Clark and nine other members of a ruthless gang, including the Bishop of Chelmsford, Judge Philip Clegg, the High Sheriff of Essex and other local desperadoes, Judge Zoe Smith had no compunction in ordering them all to serve their sentence at HMP Bullwood Hall.

They were all found guilty of 'taking money from the public for charitable causes' and will be incarcerated for the day on September 22.

Throughout their time behind bars, the gang of ten will wear prison uniform, eat prison food and carry out typical prison work of making boxer shorts.

The gang are seeking to raise cash for the Essex Community Foundation which has raised £4 million for 1,500 groups since it was set up in 1996 and its latest scheme will help charities working with vulnerable adults and young people.

Acting Governor of Bullwood Hall, Jeanne Bryant: "We are thrilled to support this initiative as many of the charities which will benefit deal with issues such as drug abuse, mental health problems and exclusion from school. These are issues that are very real to many prisoners we hold."

One force insider said: "Clark has got off very lightly, and given his antecedents and the numerous other offences that could have been taken into consideration, a far more lengthy and deterrent sentence was deserved."

# Special film will help recruitment

**A NEW DVD aimed at promoting recruitment to the special constabulary has been produced by Essex Police's TV Unit for use across the country.**

by Ben Pennington

The DVD will be sent out to people who express an interest in joining the specials, and offers an insight into the life of those already members of the constabulary.

The film deals with how to join the specials, what is required of applicants and what the job entails. Filmed over a six-week period in locations across Essex, the 'fly-on-the-wall' style film follows four special constables both on patrol and during their day jobs. The four individuals portray the variety of people who take on the role, from a builder and housewife to a white-collar manager and office assistant.

## Diverse

Shooting took place at Southend Airshow, Colchester Football Club and in Chelmsford during Euro 2004, demonstrating the diverse situations that specials can find themselves in.

Producer David Fogerty, of Essex Police's TV Unit, said: "What's great about the DVD is that it shows real people in real situations, speaking for themselves about the job they're doing."

"Making the film was a real eye-opener about the commitment that these people were prepared to make in order to give something back to their communities.

"Hopefully, by making the DVD available to those considering joining the specials, we'll have taken communication with the public a step further."

At present there is no national specials recruiting film available, so the DVD has been produced in two formats - one for Essex and the other for use by any other force.

Commandant of the Essex Special Constabulary, Alan Hill, said: "I am delighted with this DVD, which will make us even more effective at reaching out to people.

"What this film demonstrates very clearly is that anyone can be a special constable, no matter what background you're from or what skills you have. The skills you will learn are transferable to your working life, and vice versa.

"The different experience and skills that people bring to the specials are what gives the constabulary its strength."



● Braintree special constable Arlen Francke stars in the new Essex Police DVD.

## Drug-free festivities

THE small number of arrests at this year's V Festival suggests that most drug dealers shunned the event, making it the most successful on record.

Less than 20 arrests were made throughout the weekend. Revellers were faced with a new style of greeting this year as specially-trained drugs dogs patrolled the entrance sites, with amnesty bins giving people a final opportunity to give up any illegal substances.

Policing co-ordinator Insp Chris White said: "It's evident that most people actually listened to our warning concerning drug misuse, especially the dealers. As a result, the atmosphere was more relaxed and gave everyone the opportunity to enjoy the bands without fear of being hassled or approached. I would like to thank all those officers involved. Every single division helped out with the policing. Each year it just seems to get better."

Working alongside the force for the first time at the event were Crimestoppers trying to encourage a crime-free weekend by printing 30,000 bin bags with their logo and telephone number.

## Partnership under one roof

A LOGICAL but innovative idea to house Thurrock's community safety team with the council community services department has paid dividends for both.

Working together in one building began last February. Working together on anti-social behaviour orders, domestic violence,

licensing, schools and crime reduction, hate crime and having face to face contact has made a successful partnership.

Insp Michelle Farrant said: "The move has certainly proved effective with the team having access to many local authority departments."

## Race crime revision reminder

OFFICERS, particularly supervisors, are being urged to remind themselves of the policy surrounding racial incidents.

The reminder follows a spate of incidents over the last few months which have highlighted the fact that there is a need for officers, police staff and supervisors to be fully aware of what they are required to do, in particular when they attend or receive the first report.

In a case of racially aggravated criminal damage, for instance, consideration should be given to scenes of crime support and the retention of evidence for forensic examination. Essex Police will always fully investigate reports of racist incidents.

This applies equally to non-crime incidents which are perceived to be racist by the victim. They require more action than the simple recording of the incident, which may also include putting the victim in touch with support groups, or raising awareness of the incident through other forums, such as hate crime panels.

Thankfully these incidents are still relatively rare occurrences, but that in turn means officers call upon the policy less frequently. It is therefore vital, when incidents do occur, that supervisors are reviewing the actions, ensuring that policy is being adhered to, and addressing any training and development issues that arise.

Assistant Chief Constable Liam Briggshaw said: "Like any policy much relies on the information available to the police at the time of the incident, and the discretion of the officers involved to decide what powers can and should be used."

"What we must not lose sight of is our commitment to ensure every member of our community, regardless of their background, enjoys equals rights and treatment and a high quality of service."

## Campaign gets tough on motorists who flout the law

**ROAD policing officers have instructed motorists to belt up or face automatic prosecution - especially the man from Halstead who was stopped and fined twice on consecutive days in April after failing to wear his seatbelt on both occasions.**

Officers from Bocking Road Policing Unit will also be "getting tough" with mobile phone offenders who persist in flouting the law, putting people's lives needlessly at risk.

The stark, yet simple warning comes as police embark upon their ninth road safety campaign of the year, with drivers giving them cause for concern following the Easter clampdown which saw nearly 140 vehicle occupants detected with no seat belts in just one four-hour period. At the same time, another motorist was fined £30 after

# Belt up!

**by Nishan Wijeratne**

not only failing to wear his seatbelt, but also for driving while using a mobile phone.

Road Policing Inspector Mark Harman remains perplexed and confused as to why so many motorists continue to dice with death despite the repeated warnings, the ongoing publicity and the ever-increasing casualty figures.

"We found it all too simple at Easter when we carried out a similar campaign, with both drivers and passengers easy picking for officers," said Insp Harman. "The law has been

around for decades, yet many people still fail to abide by it. Sadly, there is also a similar number being injured and killed on the roads because they simply don't take a few seconds to clunk and click.

"Furthermore, mobile phone legislation has now been in existence for nine months. During this time, it has received immense media publicity - probably just as much as safety cameras have. Yet, we're still prosecuting people on a near-hourly basis.

"I just hope that we can change people's minds before we see them dead or disfigured in an otherwise minor collision."

## Help to get a hobby

A FAMILY day was organised in Canvey by local constable Jessica Fisher after hearing complaints from island youngsters that they were bored and had nothing to do.

Canvey-based businesses and clubs set up stalls with displays and taster sessions to encourage youngsters to take up new pastimes.

Pc Fisher said: "All the organisations that turned up said the event was very worthwhile. St John's Ambulance and the camera club have recruited several new members.

"I would also like to thank my colleagues Pc Paul Hemsworth who put on a brilliant fishing display and Pc Jackie Barber who was kept extremely busy all day doing craft."

## Your youthful views - WANTED!

YOUNGSTERS are getting their chance to influence the police service in a number of initiatives under the Proactive Essex Police Youth Strategy (PEPYS).

Brightly-coloured WANTED postcards have been designed to raise awareness of the PEPYS project and offer young people the chance to give feedback by returning the completed postcards 'free' with their comments and ideas.

Police community police officers have enthusiastically involved themselves in the project taking stacks of the cards to hand out to youngsters while on patrol.

A competition has also been launched to design something that sends a message to peers, be it a website, poster, DVD, t-shirt or song.

The idea is to find out what concerns young people living in today's community. It might be underage drinking, shoplifting, car crime, bullying, mobile phone or any number of other subjects.

PEPYS Programme Manager Sgt Ian Carter said: "We want PEPYS to be for young people, with young people and by young people, so we need to hear from them and make sure we take on board what they say. We hope this competition will help us identify the issues affecting young people so we can support them through our strategy."

Application packs for the competition are available at the PEPYS office on 01245 452745.



● Six-year-olds Hannah and Alex are among many youngsters with plenty of ideas about what would make their world a better place.

## Evidence of officers' commitment to justice

PRIME Minister Tony Blair visited the county last month to witness for himself the innovative use of anti-social behaviour legislation.

His trip took him to Harlow, the first town in the country to make use of a dispersal order to improve the community's quality of life.

During his tour Mr Blair took time to chat informally to residents about the positive results achieved by the team.

This is just one example of how officers around Essex are embracing the new concept of sanctioned detections and ensuring offenders are brought to justice.

Further south in Loughton excellent cross border co-operation has resulted in 46 detections for burglary through TICs.

In **Basildon** an anti-social behaviour package was put together to prevent four juveniles from continually causing damage

in the Pitsea. In conjunction with the local council police not only secured ASBOs but detections of around 50 minor crimes.

In **Chelmsford** a man acting suspiciously outside some flats was arrested and an area revealed a car containing a holdall of jewellery linked to a burglary nine days earlier. Crime pattern analysis linked a further 34 burglaries with enough evidence to secure a number of charges. The man is currently awaiting trial.

In **Tendring** a poster campaign and training days have raised awareness of sanctioned detections and performance is high on the agenda.

The importance of maximising potential detections when applying for ASBOs is a priority while a new evidence advisor plays a key role in maximising detections within custody. This work has already reaped rewards. Fingerprint identifications led to a

six-month jail term for a persistent offender who was charged with two offences with a further 56 car crime TICs.

In **Braintree** use of technology, intelligence-led policing and cross border co-operation has led to a woman being charged with repeatedly duping an elderly resident and stealing property.

In **Colchester** graffiti 'tags' causing an eyesore in Castle Park were caught on camera by police community support officers in liaison with the local council. Press publication gave the police four names which led to arrests, full admissions and a total of 28 sanctioned detections along with other intelligence.

In **Thurrock** the problem of persistent offenders but a lack of evidence is being counteracted by a team tasked with pulling together anti-social behaviour packages. The supporting evidence for the 18

packages is set to lead to numerous detections. Five of the 18 ASBOs have already been secured.

**Southend** has long suffered at the hands of shoplifters but the town beat section has enthusiastically adopted the detections policy. As a result, in the year to July 2004 there were 257 fewer shoplifting offences, only 50 were recorded as 'detected no prosecution' compared with 180 the previous year, and the sanctioned detection rate has risen from 51 to 64 per cent.

In **Canvey** a teenager arrested for robbery was soon identified as a 'one-man crime wave'. The island's community who were suffering at the hands of the 13-year-old worked with the police to secure evidence which led to charges for 10 offences of robbery, burglary and car crime. The boy remains in a secure unit and reported crime in the area has significantly reduced.

# Force property boom

**AFTER more than 20 years in the planning, Dunmow is to get a new police station.**

The move could have been achieved far quicker if the force's current Property Services Department had been around all those years ago.

Getting his own house in order was a priority for Head of Property Services Andy Sheppard when he joined Essex Police over three years ago from Southend Borough Council.

Mr Sheppard said: "Essex Police property was maintained and managed on a piecemeal basis with no professional internal expertise.

"I had to improve the structure of the department and employ professionals who were experts in all aspects of property design and management."

Two architects, two building surveyors, two design engineers, two project liaison officers and an energy officer now form part of the new department structure, along with a police inspector.

Mr Sheppard continued: "It is critical for us to have input from a police officer to ensure that operational needs come first in all operational buildings."

Internal expertise within the new department structure has saved over half a million pounds in revenue terms.

Major works such as the new Dunmow Police Station, which is costing nearly £5 million pounds and the three quarter of a million pound refurbishment at Pitsea, mean that the department's budget of over £7million pounds has to be stretched.

Mr Sheppard said: "We have to buy and sell property to meet our needs now and in years to come and we have put a long-term property strategy in place that sets parameters for the future.

"Proposals for major expansion within the county like the new A120, Thames Gateway and the

development of Colchester Garrison will all impact on building issues as we respond to operational needs."

Recent acquisitions include the police authority building in Hoffmans Way, and land for the new Dunmow Police station and police post at Tolleshunt D'Arcy.

Old buildings and police houses that are no longer required are sold off and Property Services also manages leases on rental property.

Currently part of Wethersfield is rented for storage and, when Pitsea was refurbished, offices had to be rented.

When the department is not buying, selling, or leasing they are designing and maintaining.

Architect Team Leader Richard Booth was the first architect to be employed by Essex Police.

His role is to design and maintain buildings to meet the ever-changing needs of the force.

Mr Booth said: "I have to respond to the changing requirements of policing and reflect this in any new or existing buildings.

"The new police station at Dunmow has been designed to be as flexible as possible, with internal space that can be altered and adapted to suit changing needs.

"Basically, a police station is office space that has specialist extras and it is vital that I have police input for the specialist areas."

The Disability Discrimination Act has meant that all police buildings with public access have to have facilities for disabled people.

Mr Booth said: "We redesigned our front counters following consultation with staff, unions and disabled people and we were the first and, I believe, only force to build a mock-up of a front counter.

"Counters can cost up to £35,000, so testing the design was important and a local disabled group has benefited as they now have use of the mock-up."

A mobile front counter has also been designed to maintain contact with the public during any police station refurbishment which takes place in the

## After years of piecemeal management, headquarters' Property Services Department has taken the force's estates into the 21st century. Heather Watts looks at the team who are keeping the house in order.



● Design and construction of the new Great Dunmow police station is a manor project for the department.

future.

One of Richard Booth's more unusual assignments was designing the long-awaited new firing range.

Mr Booth said "We implement any new design following consultation with the users and carry out extensive research.

"Listening to people who are going to use a building is vital if we are going to get it right.

"A design for the firing range had already been

submitted but it retained the old metal ball trap and there was no improvement to the ventilation.

"As an in-house architect with a vested interest, I had to ask if it was what the users of the range wanted and what the force needed to be improved, as well as balance costs."

Security must be taken into account when

designing any buildings but maintenance is a high priority and Richard Booth has to be sure that anything from security glass to a tap washer is

easily available and easily maintainable leading to a common but not prescriptive design throughout the force.

Maintenance is a must for Property Services Design Engineer Ian Mott who looks after all engineering services including gas, electric, heating and air-conditioning.

Mr Mott said: "If it's not the brickwork and it doesn't come in on foot, then it's our responsibility. "Before the force took responsibility for

maintaining its own estate there was no monitoring or real control of the routine maintenance of plant and equipment and we are now paying for those years of neglect.

"We are transferring to a routine maintenance programme to minimise any breakdown problems but to deal with any problems we operate a 24/7 system with two engineers always available."

The team comprises three divisional technicians who maintain frontline contact and a small mechanical and electrical design team for major projects and minor improvements.

Facilities Manager Rob Holden oversees a team that is responsible for the administration of service contracts for cleaning, window cleaning, utilities and security equipment maintenance.

The group also manages the PAC access system and provides support services to headquarters covering a wide range of caretaking tasks.

Among these is the shredding of confidential waste paper, with recycling saving nearly 2,000 trees a year.

Alan Humphries manages ground maintenance and makes sure headquarters sports pitch is kept up to scratch and oversees the gardener who cherishes the Chief Constable's garden, now enjoyed by staff during their lunch breaks.

It also includes mowing the lawns at empty police houses and maintaining a weed-free environment around police stations.

For health and safety purposes the facilities management team also keep an asbestos register.

Asbestos is a big problem for the force as most buildings between the 1950s' and late 70s' have asbestos in them. This has to be inspected to make sure that it is not a hazard.

Since 1994 there are strict government regulations concerning health and safety and this is why all work on divisions has to be approved by the Property Services Department.

The myriad of regulations, plans and work schedules handled by the department means a strong ethos of team work runs throughout. Now that the house is in order, Property Services will be keeping it that way.

## Sending thieves packing

A NEW information pack detailing the service residents can expect from officers has been launched as the latest tool in the force's drive against burglary.

The dwelling burglary pack has been introduced across the force in order to provide a consistent approach to the crime and will be used at all scenes of dwelling burglaries in Essex.

The pack has been rolled out forcewide following pilot launches in Harlow, Southend, Colchester and Basildon last autumn.

The initiative was made possible with £60,000 of Home Office funding provided by the government department to look at disseminating good

practice on dealing with crimes such as burglary.

As well as informing residents about the service police will provide, the pack also includes assessment forms to tackle repeat victimisation, advice on keeping homes secure, contact details and the crime reference number. This will enable victims to contact the officer dealing with their case quickly.

Crime reduction inspector Dave Northcott, said: "In order to reduce and detect more burglaries, we need to raise our game."

"The pack is an effort to enhance Essex Police's service to victims of house burglary. It sets out clear guidelines and standards for the minimum

investigation which should take place at the scene of an offence."

The new pack contains material to assist officers as well as burglary victims. As well as house to house enquiries being carried out following a crime, burglary alert cards will be distributed to neighbouring properties.

Research shows that victims of burglary can be vulnerable to a repeat of the crime within six to eight weeks. Similarly constructed houses on the same side of the street may also be targeted.

Also included in the pack is information and details about organisations such as Victim Support and Crimestoppers.

## Award for local voluntary heroes

VOLUNTEERS who make an outstanding contribution to their local community have the opportunity to meet HM the Queen if their group is one of those chosen to win the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

Set up in 2002 following the Golden Jubilee, the award recognises the outstanding contribution that voluntary groups make to society. The experience of the past two years has shown that many nominations come from police networks that are in contact with all sorts of voluntary groups. Nominations must come from someone who is not a member of the group but may have benefited from their work, or seen the positive

effects on the community. This year's winners received a certificate signed by the Queen and a piece of commemorative crystal. They also had the opportunity to send three members to a reception at St James' Palace hosted by the Queen.

If you know of a voluntary group that you think makes a real difference to the community and is worthy of recognition, then why not nominate them? You must hurry as nominations close on September 30. For more information you can log onto [www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk](http://www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk) or call 0845 000 2002.

## Memorial day

THE National Police Memorial Day will be held on Sunday, October 3, 2004.

There will be a service for families of the 4000 fallen officers who have died or been killed on duty at St Paul's Cathedral in London.

A memorial badge has been designed so that all officers can show their support for this day. Chief Officers have agreed that the badges or ribbons can be worn on uniform throughout September.

The badge or ribbon should be worn on the left pocket of the shirt in summer uniform or on the left lapel of any jacket.

Badges and ribbons can be purchased from the Federation office at HQ (contact Jackie Card ext 54555).

Badges are £2 and any other donations to the national Police Memorial Day charity will be gratefully received.



● Pitsea police station is now ready for action following this year's £750,000 refurbishment.

**OPERATIONAL** Co-ordinator Inspector Bob Warwick supplies police input to the department, working closely with Senior Building Surveyor John Kimble.

Insp Warwick was previously a section inspector at Dunmow and was at that time working out of the oldest police station in the force, built in 1842.

He became involved in building projects when his divisional commander asked him to find a way forward in getting a new police station.

Insp Warwick said: "One of the criticisms in the past is that police officers were given a brief but, due to other commitments, couldn't keep a hands on role throughout a project.

"Now I can see a project through, from assessing officers needs to problem solving for the matters that we don't quite manage to get right.

"This can be anything down to what we need in a dog kennel to finding a space for 12 road policing



● Insp Bob Warwick.

officers plus space to store the safety cameras.

"I have also carried out research to see what size locker officers need to take all their kit including the body armour which involved measuring it all."

Insp Warwick was the department link on the Vulnerable Victims project and is also chair of the county forum for disability groups and meets with their representatives to make sure that their needs are met.

# Tackling the storage backlogs

WHAT do a cement mixer, a speedboat, 40ft Spanish articulated lorry and a Robin Reliant have in common? They are just a few of the items that have been residing at the central property store having lost their rightful owners.

The storing and handling of both lost and found and seized property has become a huge and expensive problem with many property officers in despair as they disappear under a mountain of items. A project team headed by Insp Gordon Ashford looked at the problem and a revised property handling policy has been drawn up.

Lost mobile phones have become an administrative burden with over 10,000 reports last year when, realistically, the chances of reuniting a lost phone with its owner are slim.

Now the public will be advised to contact their service provider who will block the phone.

A found item with no identification as to its owner and not of particular value will generate a report but after 21 days, if no one has claimed it, then it will be disposed of unless it was retained by the finder.

Credit cards and benefit books will be returned to the issuer if possible and the public told to report their loss to the issuer.

Another problem historically was property seized as part of an investigation that did not have current or relevant paperwork. The



● This Robin Reliant spent four and a half years in store due to a paperwork mix up, after a forfeiture notice issued the day before it was stored went unnoticed.

property officer was then faced with items, perhaps a piece of wood, a beer can, a fragment of glass, a desk fan, a crash helmet or even a door, with no record of why we had it or if it could be disposed. Insp Ashford stresses that the revised policy is not discouraging officers from seizing items but simply ensures that they review the need to retain them.

He said: "If we seize property and it is not

relevant to the enquiry the item should either be destroyed or returned to the owner."

The seizure of cars is costly in terms of their storage and transportation. Cars are often seized with a view that a forfeiture order is made, the car sold and assets recovered. The truth, however, is that usually they are old and practically worthless and storage costs more as they don't sell at auction and end up being

scrapped.

Insp Ashford said: "Officers think that seizing a car will inconvenience the offender, but in reality the police and the tax payer are the ones inconvenienced.

"Last year the force spent over £300,000 storing vehicles at rota garages and this excludes the costs at the central property store."

However, the project team have reduced the 126 vehicles stored at the central property store by over 100. Insp Ashford added: "Officers sometimes seize a car during a drugs search; however we don't seize a house when we are searching for drugs, so officers should consider carefully before requesting this action as the car is not usually evidential."

The introduction of new rules will help prevent the possibility of false allegations and protect the integrity of the force.

Money over £50 must now be banked within one working day and the disposal of property must now be witnessed by another person.

Property officers will be holding bi-monthly forums to discuss issues and common ground. The project team are keen to see officers talking to property officers if they want advice on items found, lost or seized, working together will cut down on time wasted on pointless tasks, such as retaining property that is no more than rubbish, or keeping property we shouldn't.

## A novel approach to history

A MEMBER of staff from Harlow has just had his first book published, has completed his second and already is writing his third. Brian Croasdell, an administrator in the criminal justice unit, has had a life-long interest in Roman history, inspiring him to turn his research into a novel.

It took him about a year to weave an adventure story around an authentic historical framework and the result, *Wool and Iron*, has been published by iUniverse Inc and is available on the amazon.com website.

Reviewing his book was Rachel Cook, daughter of Press Officer Helen.

"I enjoyed this book," says Rachel. "It begins by introducing the various characters and then the story unfolds. I liked the fact that it was historically accurate and it gives a real insight into what life was like in Roman Britain at that time." "It was also a good story line with suspense that moved along at a pace. I also liked the humour and amusing things that happen in the book. Overall, I rate it a good read."

## Health check

### Matters of the heart

THE British Cardiac Patients Association has declared September 26 as 'Cardiac Awareness Day'.

In the United Kingdom, Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) kills one in four men and one in six women per year, among the highest in the world. CHD is usually thought of as being a problem mainly affecting men, but it is the single highest cause of death in women over the age of 50. Women below this age, who take the contraceptive pill, and smoke, are also increasing their risk of heart disease. People suffering with diabetes, or with a family history of heart disease, are other groups at high risk.

There are a number of other factors which contribute to heart disease, such as high blood pressure, smoking, stress, poor diet and lifestyle. Equally, there are a number of ways in which these conditions and heart disease can be prevented.

So, if you feel that you are at risk and may be suffering with any of these problems, then you should see your GP as soon as possible. Otherwise, keep a look out for the information being distributed, check out [www.bcpa.co.uk](http://www.bcpa.co.uk) or [www.bhf.org.uk](http://www.bhf.org.uk), or contact the Occupational Health Department for advice, on ext. 58611.

# Crime fears dip to record low

**FEAR of crime in Essex is significantly lower than the majority of counties in Britain, according to a recent survey.**

The British Crime Survey gains first-hand experiences of crime and fear of crime by talking directly with the public.

It also compares figures within a 'family' of forces, in other words, forces of similar size, population and nature.

This year Warwickshire, Hertfordshire, Avon and Somerset, Cheshire, Kent, Hampshire and Derbyshire are in our 'family'.

Cheshire and Derbyshire replace Sussex and

## by Kim Perks

Thames Valley who were included between 2001 and 2003.

Essex has consistently appeared in first or second place within its family as having the lowest incidence and fear of crime.

The survey particularly shows that public perception of personal crime in the county, including violence, domestic burglary and vehicle crime, is at an all-time low, having been decreasing for the last four years.

Deputy Chief Constable Charles Clark said: "The fear of crime is often greater than the reality. It is really good to see that on every measure within the British Crime Survey for the

'fear of crime', for those crimes that are of most concern to the public, Essex has improved and in some cases substantially.

"I think that this shows that some of the reported increases in crime, as we have been saying, are more to do with a change in recording practice than a real increase felt by the public of Essex."

Chairman of the Essex Police Authority Robert Chambers said: "I am delighted that the British Crime Survey reinforces the message which we have been putting over to the people of Essex. Essex is a safe county and the likelihood of becoming a victim of crime which has a direct impact on you is very low. People's fear of crime is often the greatest burden for the public. This survey shows that people are starting to see the reality that Essex is a safe place."

## Kids go off the beaten track

MORE than 120 children enjoyed the force's annual 4X4 fun day at Marsh Farm in South Woodham Ferrers recently.

The youngsters, aged between five and 17, were driven around off-road tracks in vehicles provided by manufacturers for the day.

The day is held once a year for youngsters with physical and learning difficulties, along with their carers.

As well as the trucks, the youngsters got to meet police dogs, marine section officers and Essex Fire Service and Royal Military Police personnel.

A DJ was also on hand to entertain the party, in between having their fingerprints taken by staff from the Airwave project.

Treasurer of the fun day committee, Sue Adkins, said: "Another successful day was enjoyed by the children who attended.

"We'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who made it possible."



## Rape enquiry team earn Chief Constable's plaudits

A TOTAL of eight police officers and one support staff have been commended by the Chief Constable for their part in identifying and arresting a man on the run after raping a resident at a Colchester care home.

They were commended for their actions on September 10, 2003, after Raymond Hatter broke into Wakes Hall in Wakes Colne. Hatter committed the rape, burgled a number of rooms and stole a motor vehicle before escaping.

Following widespread media coverage, Hatter gave himself up to police in Milton Keynes. The enquiry produced overwhelming evidence of his guilt, and on February 2 this year he pleaded guilty to all charges and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Det Supt Graeme Bull (Rayleigh MIT), Dc Sally Goldfinch (Harlow MIT), Ds Mark Merry, Pc Claire Lendon, Pc Nicola Gander, Dc Pauline Bradley, Dc Robert Sloane, Dc Patrick Manning (all Colchester) and Geraldine Vinall (Force Information Room) were all commended for their work on the case.

Pc Lee Harris (Chigwell Dog Section) and Dc Paul Davis (Harlow) have been commended for their work following a serious stabbing in Harlow on May 3, 2003.

Pc Harris is noted for his bravery and professionalism when he stopped and apprehended the suspect in a remote part of Epping Green. His actions contributed to the strong

case against the suspect, who later pleaded guilty to GBH with intent and got life.

Dc Davis was commended for his investigative skills, professionalism and presentation of case papers following the stabbing.

Pc David Morgan (Corringham Dog Section) received a commendation for his actions on April 30, 2003, when he attended a report of a knife-point robbery at Martin's newsagents in Staple Tye, Harlow. The robber had made off with £240 in cash, but following a search of the area two men were seen acting suspiciously in a car.

The car was blocked in and both occupants were arrested following a struggle.

## Cutting court time

PRAISE for Essex as a top four placing in the 43 English and Welsh forces, shows a significant improvement in the time taken from arrest to sentence of persistent young offenders.

Essex has reduced the days taken to process young offenders from 71 to 42 days, the best ever achieved by the force and its partners.

Chief Insp Tim Crux, of the criminal justice department, said: "Officers should be praised for their hard work and efforts in targeting these persistent offenders. We must continue this downward trend."

## New roads partners

ESSEX is the latest force to accredit officers from the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency (VOSA) with the power to patrol the county's roads and stop goods and passenger vehicles for spot-checks from this month.

Prior to the Police Reform Act 2002, officers have needed to be present during spot-checks. VOSA will operate within Essex in accordance with the health and safety framework, motorway regulations and complying with local and national operating agreements.

It is hoped the presence of more marked vehicles on the road will provide reassurance.

Hamilton Direct Bank



The Police Federation  
PERSONAL LOAN SCHEME

# The only loan negotiated with Police Federation members in mind

Borrow  
**£8,000**  
For less than  
**£160**  
per month

**7.4%**  
typical APR<sup>1</sup>



If you're looking for a loan then why not get one that's designed specifically for you? At Hamilton Direct Bank we've teamed up with The Police Federation to offer you a personal loan to meet your individual needs.

- **FIXED RATE** repayments so you know exactly how much you'll be paying each month
- **FLEXIBILITY** to pay back lump sums without penalty during the course of your loan
- **ANY PURPOSE** loans to spend as you please<sup>3</sup>
- **UNSECURED** loan so your home is never at risk
- **OPTIONAL PAYMENT PROTECTION INSURANCE** to cover your repayments in case the unexpected should happen

## REPAYMENTS MADE CLEAR

Loan amount	Typical APR	60 monthly repayments	Total repayable
£12,000	7.4%	£238.74	£14,324.40
£8,000	7.4%	£159.17	£9,550.20
£4,000	9.9%	£83.97	£5,038.20
£2,000	12.8%	£44.61	£2,676.60

If the loan amount that you're looking for does not appear in the table above, then please visit [www.hdb.co.uk/police](http://www.hdb.co.uk/police) for more loan values and repayments to suit your needs. Repayments quoted exclude optional Payment Protection Insurance (PPI).

**ONE SIMPLE CALL**  
**A DECISION WITHIN MINUTES**  
**MONEY IN YOUR ACCOUNT WITHIN DAYS<sup>2</sup>**

Call for a Police Federation Unsecured Personal Loan

**0800 71 65 66**

quoting reference code 97056 and your Force  
Or visit our website at [www.hdb.co.uk/police](http://www.hdb.co.uk/police)

### Terms and Conditions

<sup>1</sup>For a loan of £8,000 at **7.4% typical APR**, excluding optional Payment Protection Insurance, repayable by 60 monthly repayments of £159.17, the total amount repayable is £9,550.20. <sup>2</sup>Your signed loan documents must be received by 12.30pm. Lines open 7 days a week, Monday to Friday 8am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 7pm, Sunday 10am to 6pm. As a responsible lender we recommend the maximum amount you apply for is half your annual salary, before tax. All loans and interest rates are subject to status. The quoted rate is a typical APR, which is the rate we are able to offer the majority of borrowers. The actual interest rates at which we lend will reflect your personal circumstances and/or your credit score and/or your desired loan amount. A written quotation of our credit terms is available on request. You must be 18 years or over and in receipt of a regular income of at least £7,500 (gross) per annum. All your credit commitments must be up to date. Minimum loan amount £500, maximum £25,000. For your security and to help improve our service to you, we may record or monitor telephone calls. This offer is available only to UK residents (excluding residents of the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands). Rates are correct at time of going to print. <sup>3</sup>Loans for business and timeshare purposes are excluded. Hamilton Direct Bank (a division of HFC Bank Limited) is a trading name of HFC Bank Limited. HFC Bank Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Registered Office: North Street, Winkfield, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 4TD. Registered in England No: 1117305. Member HSBC Group

## Take a trip with NARPO

A SMALL number of places are still available for the four-day short break to the Cotswolds, staying at renovated Eynsham Hall.

If you are too young to remember, Eynsham Hall was at one time a police training centre. All rooms, which are doubles (or used as singles at no extra cost) are en suite. There is a health centre and indoor pool all.

We shall leave on May 31 and return on June 3 and, while there, will visit Stratford-upon-Avon and Bath, where we shall have conducted tours. We will also visit a number of typical Cotswold towns and villages.

The fully inclusive cost is £185.00.

### Sightseeing

On July 5 we are off for a four-day break to the Edinburgh Tattoo, staying half board at the Best Western Kings Manor Hotel. This hotel has a health club, and indoor pool. Rooms are en suite. We will include a tour of the Royal Yacht Britannia, tickets to best seats at the Tattoo as well as sightseeing with our coach and the services of a guide. The inclusive cost of this trip is £275.

Whether or not you are a member of NARPO we would love you to join us. If you would like to go on either or both these trips, or would like more information contact Mike Beaveridge on 01702 529985 or email [mbeaconsulting@onetel.com](mailto:mbeaconsulting@onetel.com).

All our trips start from Southend Airport where there is free parking.

**Mike Beaveridge**  
Social Secretary

# Off to pastures new

## Names in the news

THE transition from the fresh faced cadet of 1971 to the grey haired sergeant of 2004, marks the career of **Colin Day**, who retires from the role of wing instructor at the driving school, to take up a post in the central ticket office.

Having served at Southend, Grays and Rayleigh, with a spell as an instructor at Ashford and Shotley, it is the people and characters that Colin remembers. His interest in vehicles and driving will continue as he plans to treat himself to a new car and drive it through the highways and byways of Great Britain.

**Alan Hill** is leaving Essex Police for the second time as he relinquishes the role of Commandant of the Essex Special Constabulary. Having served for 30 years as a regular, Alan took on the specials role in May 1997 and has thoroughly enjoyed his tenure. He has been impressed by the dedication and commitment of all specials, and leaves knowing that the progress made will continue under the team that he had the privilege to lead. George Cook will be the new Commandant. See next month's issue for his vision for the future.

Obtaining admissions from prisoners has given **Bob Seals** the

most job satisfaction, and after 30 years' service, the retiring temporary superintendent has notched up a fair few.

Bob began his career in South Ockendon but soon turned his attention to CID and also spent three years with the then Regional Crime Squad. After working his way up through the ranks, his final year at HQ saw him take on the rank of temporary superintendent.

Retirement will see Bob turn his hand to a completely different skill - making bespoke furniture tailored to clients' specific needs and designs.

Former constable **Steve Daly** was encouraged to join the force and, although born in Essex, started his police career with Dyfed Powys Police.

Having transferred back to Essex he went on to serve a total of 30 years, serving in many areas including the last 14 at Stansted Airport.

As a divisional training officer, and with the introduction of the Civil Contingencies Bill, he worked with

security trainers on the national aviation security programme. The work led to the team becoming regional winners of a national training award in 1986.

Steve will now pass on his expertise to students on public services courses at Hertford Regional College.

Spending his final three years at Chigwell Motorway Control has had such an influence on **Phil Simmonds** that he is continuing in the same role as a member of police staff. Phil started his career at Colchester before moving to Brentwood in 1984, where he spent the bulk of his service. The highlight was his time as a beat officer at Ingatestone. He plans to mark his retirement with a lengthy cruise to exotic parts.

Also staying put in civvies is **Dave Bird** of the File Management Unit at Chelmsford. Starting his career at Benfleet and Canvey, Dave spent five years on a detached beat at Great Yeldham before moving to scenes of crime. One claim to fame is that he

was the photographer at the scene of the notorious Bamber murders.

With plans to spend much of his retirement in sunnier climes, **Dave Ashbolt** retires from Brentwood where he has spent 25 of his 30 years. Dave said: "I loved working with people and dealing with the public, but the bureaucracy was the turn-off." Following a spell in Cyprus he will be looking for a part-time post.

**David Rout** retired from his post as a constable at Dunmow having completed just over 27 years' service.

## Obituaries

WORKSHOP supervisor **Dave Sargeant** died in service on August 15, having worked with Essex Police for over 30 years.

Long-term colleague, Bob Purslow, said: "Dave would do anything for anyone. If you came to him with a problem and he could help, then he would."

A local man, Dave leaves a widow, Vivienne, two daughters, Lisa and Becca, and six grandchildren. A countryman at heart, Dave enjoyed various outdoor sports, including the training of gun dogs. His funeral took place at St Margaret's Church in Aldham.

Former constable **David Amos** has died aged 67. Mr Amos served from 1937 to 1986 at Clacton, Grays, Harlow and HQ Traffic and Saffron Walden. He died on August 17 leaving a widow Cynthia.

**William Bowmaker**, a former sergeant with Essex Police, died on August 11, aged 79.

Mr Bowmaker joined the service in 1950 and served in the Dog Section at Sandon, Brentwood and Colchester before retiring in 1980. He leaves a widow Doris.

## Steve crosses border

THERE'S a new face in Harlow, a man so impressed with his dealings with Essex Police he chose to join us.

Superintendent Steve Graysmark has arrived on promotion from the Metropolitan Police and taken up the role of deputy divisional commander at Harlow.

Having began his career in Sussex in 1980 he spent time as an authorised firearms officer at Gatwick

before being attracted by the variety and opportunity of the Met to which he transferred in 1984. Spending most of his time in uniform, Steve was stationed in east London and crime squad as a constable and sergeant and on territorial support as an inspector, before moving to London's most diverse borough of Newham. A public order specialist, he was involved with the policing of the

Notting Hill carnival and major football matches.

Steve passed selection process boards in both Essex and the Met but chose Essex. He said: "I need a challenge and chose to move to a new role in a new force. I am keen to take on all aspects of the job and I've just silvered my first firearms' incident."

Steve is married to the only Muslim detective inspector in the country, and has a 13-year-old daughter.



● Supt Steve Graysmark.

He recently gained a first class honours degree in policing and police studies from Portsmouth University, is a weightlifter and plays tennis and table tennis.

## Market Place

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE - ONE WORD PER BOX


Name and rank .....

Station ..... Home Tel.....

Date ..... Signed .....

Send to The Editor, The Law, Press Office,

Essex Police Headquarters.

Only adverts from those directly connected to Essex Police (either serving or retired) will be accepted. Adverts should be restricted to a maximum of 24 words and repeat ads should be re-submitted on a monthly basis. The Law team reserves the right to edit or omit any advert which doesn't meet this criteria.

● Advertisers should be aware that The Law is now published on the internet and any telephone numbers given will be in the public domain.

**CITROEN** Saxo VTR, gold. Central locking, sunroof, 6 disc CD player. Excellent condition, £4,500 ono. Contact Vicki Watson on 01375 391212 or 01375 677754.

**COSTA BLANCA.** La Marina, 3 bed apartment, 2 pools, 5 mins from beach. Golf courses nearby. More info at 01255 672312 or [www.costablancalets.co.uk](http://www.costablancalets.co.uk).

**FLORIDA.** 4 bed villa, pool overlooking water, fully equipped and in great location. Close to everything from £450pw. Contact Pete or Lin on 01245 321378. Video available. Email [petewtaylor@yahoo.com](mailto:petewtaylor@yahoo.com).

**FLORIDA.** Luxury 4 bed villa near Disney and attractions. Sleeps 10, own heated pool. Free brochure. Tel: 01702 586092 or [www.my-florida-villa.net](http://www.my-florida-villa.net).

**FRANCE.** Relaxing break before onset of winter. Sample local cuisine, wines and cheeses. Independent property overlooking river. Amazing views, sleeps 4/5. Visit [www.giteinvienne.com](http://www.giteinvienne.com) or email [philetlin@free.fr](mailto:philetlin@free.fr).

**HOCKLEY.** House share available. Large 4 bed house with gymnasium and multi-room, Sky TV. £65 per week. Contact Dave Britton on 01702 201701 or 07720 889778.

**INFLATABLE** children's toy house and garden furniture for £30 ono. Sgt Kalar on 01268 775533 or email on [suky.kalar@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:suky.kalar@essex.pnn.police.uk).

**LAKESIDE** chalet, Cotswold Water Parks. Exclusive fully-equipped 2 bed, one bath, kitchen, lounge, and terrace. Leisure centre on site. From £150 to £300 per week. Contact Stuart McKie on 07973 639342.

**LA MANGA,** Southern Spain. 2 bed apartment, pool, panoramic sea views. Highly praised 2004 guests. Autumn availability, summer 05. Deals discounts. Phone Bernie on 07986 098422.

**ORLANDO.** Luxury villa with private pool. 3 bed, sleeps 8, close Disney. From £350 per week contact John HQ mail driver. Tel: 01245 465855.

**ORLANDO.** Luxury villa. 4 bed, 3 bath, sleeps up to 10. Private screened pool near Disney and other central Florida attractions. For more details contact 01245 266949 or 01376 573406.

**SCOTTISH** Highlands. B&B in Austrian-style home. Fishing, skiing, shooting, walking, bird watching or chill out

in 600-acre pine forest. Police discounts. Contact Andy Nunn on 01479 841717 or [woodlands.nunn@btopenworld.com](mailto:woodlands.nunn@btopenworld.com).

**SCOTTISH** Trossachs. Log cabins, fishing on private river. Cycling, walking, outstanding beauty, complete privacy. Close to Rob Roy's grave. Contact Duncan Campbell on 01877 384676.

**SPRINGFIELD.** One bed unfurnished house, parking, garden, gas heating. Refs required. No DSS, no pets, £525 pcm. Tel: 01621 772195.

**TWO** bed, 3-storey luxury villa, Costa del Sol on famous 5-star La Cala golf course. 15 mins from Marbella at La Cala de Mijas. Very private shared pool, all usual high-class facilities including sun terrace and private square. Very tranquil. From £400 per week for villa. Contact Derek Patten on ext 47434 or 07958 209909. [www.sunholsdirect.com](http://www.sunholsdirect.com) (ref C185).

**VILAMOURA,** Portugal. Spacious apartment. Lounge, dining area, fully equipped kitchen. Contact Jo Hiluta on 01245 421465.

## Calling all comrades

This is a final reminder that the autumn lunch of the Essex Police Comrades' Association will be held on Friday, October 15 at the HQ training centre.

The sports pavilion bar will be open from 11.30am with lunch at 1pm. A park and ride system will be in operation from Chelmer Retail Park opposite the end of Sandford Road between 11.15am and 1pm and again at the end of lunch. There will be no parking facilities at HQ.

If you have special dietary requirements or mobility problems let Sue Kelly, or her secretary Marian Goodwin, know as soon as possible on 01245 452799/452797.

Also ensure that your booking form, with a cheque for £16, is sent to Sue Kelly at the Police Federation Office at HQ to arrive no later than Friday, October 8. Any bookings after this date will only be included in the final numbers in exceptional circumstances.

# Society knows the scores

ESSEX Police Musical Society has extended a big thank you to all who came to its recent summer shows at headquarters at the end of July.

The three evenings proved to be incredibly hot but audiences were marvellous and gave a lovely reception to the cast.

The popular format of the society's summer shows was repeated with the audience seated at tables and invited to bring a drink or two, whilst nibbles were provided.

They were entertained with a variety of popular songs, dance and comedy.

Glowing reviews have been received including one from our National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA) representative, Colin Butcher.

In his review, Colin said: "Directed by Pam Corrie, the group continue to improve in all departments. The music under the expert control of MD Jim Dougal was accomplished and balanced very well with both the ensemble and individual numbers...the evening's proceedings flowed well and were ably conducted by MC Peter Simpson."

Special mention and praise was made of the performances of On the Street Where You Live (from My Fair Lady), Brother Can You Spare A Dime, Everybody Needs Somebody to Love, At the End of the Day (from Les Miserables), Fever,



● Pat Nicholson and Bonny Pearce take to the stage (left), while Shelley Barkway and Colin Day get in the mood for some smooth tunes (right).

Don't Cry For Me Argentina (from Evita), Model of Decorum (from Chess), The Candy Man and what he described as a "clever take" on The Lonely Goatherd with the performers emulating the puppets as well as the puppeteers.

The praise concludes: "The colourful costumes, good lighting and sound all helped to contribute to the success of this production."

Some of the monies raised from ticket sales and the raffle will be donated to the Essex Air

Ambulance, The East London Cabbies' Children's Outing and the Making Matt Mobile Scheme, supporting the efforts being undertaken throughout the force to buy a special vehicle for Matthew Green, son of Dc Ed Green.

A special mention is reserved for Pc Colin Day who performed both solo numbers and ensemble pieces. He was attacked on duty the night before the three performances but, despite being in obvious pain and discomfort, showed the true spirit of the society in that the show must go on.

On the Thursday night president of the musical society ACC John Broughton made a surprise presentation. Chairperson of the society Lynda Barkway was presented with the Chief Constable's Certificate of Congratulations.

Part of the citation reads: "The society has produced twice-yearly performances of first class productions reflecting all that is best in light

music to audiences of hundreds of people. The society members have been outstanding ambassadors for Essex Police and have raised many thousands of pounds for various charitable organisations."

After just a two-week break, the society is back rehearsing for the February show, The Hot Mikado, which may prove the biggest challenge to date. The dates for the show are: Monday, February 21 to Saturday, February 26, with evening performances at 7.30pm and a matinee performance on the Saturday at 2.30pm.

The Hot Mikado is a deliriously upbeat version of The Mikado and the show retains the original satire and humour whilst introducing a red hot swing score which also embraces jazz and gospel.

For further information on the Musical Society please contact either Jenny Hillyard on extension 50335 or Justina Bécousse on extension 51037.

Corporate Support's Niall Campbell offers a spectator's view from the house.

"The evening began with dramatic lighting and punchy delivery of the title song before moving seamlessly into a selection of classics. The established stars of the society continue the quality performances their audiences have come to expect". Lynda's Fever enthralled the audience while the Rat Pack Medley provided the perfect showcase for the male leads. The society also bought new faces into the spotlight as Many A

New Day and Hushabye Mountain set Justina and Gemma very comfortably in centre stage.

The doleful Blues of Brother Can You Spare A Dime captured the attention and the introduction of music hall with Lilli Marlene demonstrated the versatility of the cast, as much as it demonstrated their ability to hold an audience.

This was a thoroughly enjoyable evening for all in the audience. Roll on the next production!"

I can do no more than echo everyone's sentiments and say that we all look forward to seeing you for The Hot Mikado.



## Special Offer!

Save £234 on annual membership fees at Five Lakes Country Club

Five Lakes Resort is offering Essex Police personnel a special monthly rate of £37 per person (normally £44), with no joining fee (normally £150).

Enjoy the wide range of fitness facilities including a leisure pool, sauna, steam-room and spa bath. Take part in the walking club, cycle to fitness in the spinning class or simply tone and stretch in the gym.



To join or for further information, please call

**01621 862427**

Colchester Road, Tolleshunt Knights, Maldon, Essex, CM9 8HX  
enquiries@fivelakes.co.uk www.fivelakes.co.uk

\*Calculation based on a membership for 365 days

## Choir in concerted push for charity

THE popular Essex Police Choir's future looks assured with at least six more concerts booked for the remainder of the year.

And with requests for concerts flooding in, bookings are already established through to April 2006.

The choir's next performance is the annual concert at Christchurch, Chelmsford on Saturday, October 16.

All the concerts raise funds for charities and good causes and this year's annual concert supports the Cancer Genetics Department at the Royal Marsden Hospital in London.

Tickets are obtainable at £8 from Julie Brown on 01245 494811 and, with

tickets selling quickly, early purchase is advised.

Next year's diary is also filling up and the choir will be recording their second CD.

The choir is still keen to recruit more members, especially basses, tenors and altos.

Police officers or staff and their family are welcomed to attend the friendly rehearsal evenings at the training centre complex at headquarters each Tuesday at 7.45pm.

For further information, contact Publicity Officer Elaine Beckett on 01787 477403 or membership secretary Sylvia Bray on 01245 265144.

# True gents!

**PICTURESQUE grounds at Audley End House in Saffron Walden were the backdrop to the Gents annual fixture.**

CID, captained by Phil Mellon, lost the toss and were duly put in to bat by Audley End.

Veteran opening batsmen Bob Richards and Barry Johnson struggled to get going against a lively bowling attack, however the score soon ticked on with the arrival of Dave

Griffiths. Both BJ and Griff got good starts but could not prosper.

Chris Corlett added much-needed support with a powerful 77 including 15 boundaries, solid partnerships with Phil Mellon (31), the energetic Martin Woollard (49) (narrowly missing a half century) and Lee Parrish (13). Gents batting total reached a respectable 221 for 8.

## Audley End v Gents of Essex

A splendid picnic tea was enjoyed by the players and guests, with Audley End stately house providing perfect scenery on a glorious sunny day.

The Gents took the field with the purpose of gaining the victory. Opening bowler Mark Frost's first over was hit for 12 before the exceptional wicket keeping skills of Bob Richards gained a couple of

stumping the finishing figures were 3 for 44.

Robert Miller, also opening bowler, provided economical support as CID crawled back the Audley End reply. Resistance for Audley End came from Metson (30) and Babbage (not out 30) before Barry 'fingers' Johnson (2 for 10) and Peter Orpe (2 for 27), plus back up from Dave Griffiths and Phil Mellon,

kept the Gents in the hunt.

All the bowlers were on the mark, but for a few dropped catches the Gents would have comfortably won the fixture, Audley End hanging on to the last wicket stand, finishing with a score of 161 for 9, which gained them an honourable draw.

The fixture was played in the true spirit of the game of cricket and the Gents of Essex CID look forward to future games with Audley End CC.

## Quiz proves a musical hit

A TOTAL of £465.21 has been raised by a music quiz for a teenager paralysed in a car crash.

Eleven teams took part in the quiz at HQ, one of many events trying to improve the quality of life of Matt Green, son of Stansted Dc Ed.

Winners on the night were staff from Essex County Council's payroll section.

## Charitable tri-umph

WHEN Pc Mark Tyrell pledged to raise money for a special care baby unit he didn't chose the easiest of methods.

He swam, cycled, hobbled and crawled around the London triathlon, finishing in a commendable 3hrs and 11mins.

His efforts have raised nearly £1,000 for Colchester Hospitals SCBU

● Graham Perks, from Harlow, Mark Harman from Bocking Road Policing Unit, and James Mihill, a non-serving member of the Essex Police Tri Club, competed in the Cambridge Triathlon finishing 2:18:46, 2:30:48 and 2:42:32 respectively.

As *The Law* went to press the club were due to take part in the Clacton triathlon.

## Snooker sale

THE snooker table at Stanway Road Policing Unit is being auctioned off to the highest bidder.

No reserve price has been set so all reasonable offers will be considered, although delivery is not included.

The table is in good condition and can be inspected but it is advisable to make an appointment.

Bids in writing should be submitted to Roy Clark at Colchester by September 30.

## Date change

THE date of the ladies 5-a-side football competition has changed.

It will now take place on Wednesday, October 27 at HQ. The organiser is Cara McCulloch at Harwich.

## Fair way to remember Mick

FRIENDS and colleagues of former detective Mick Frost travelled across the county to swap old stories and compete in the game he loved.

Mick was lost to cancer while working at Witham, but an annual golf day has been held in his honour for the last four years.

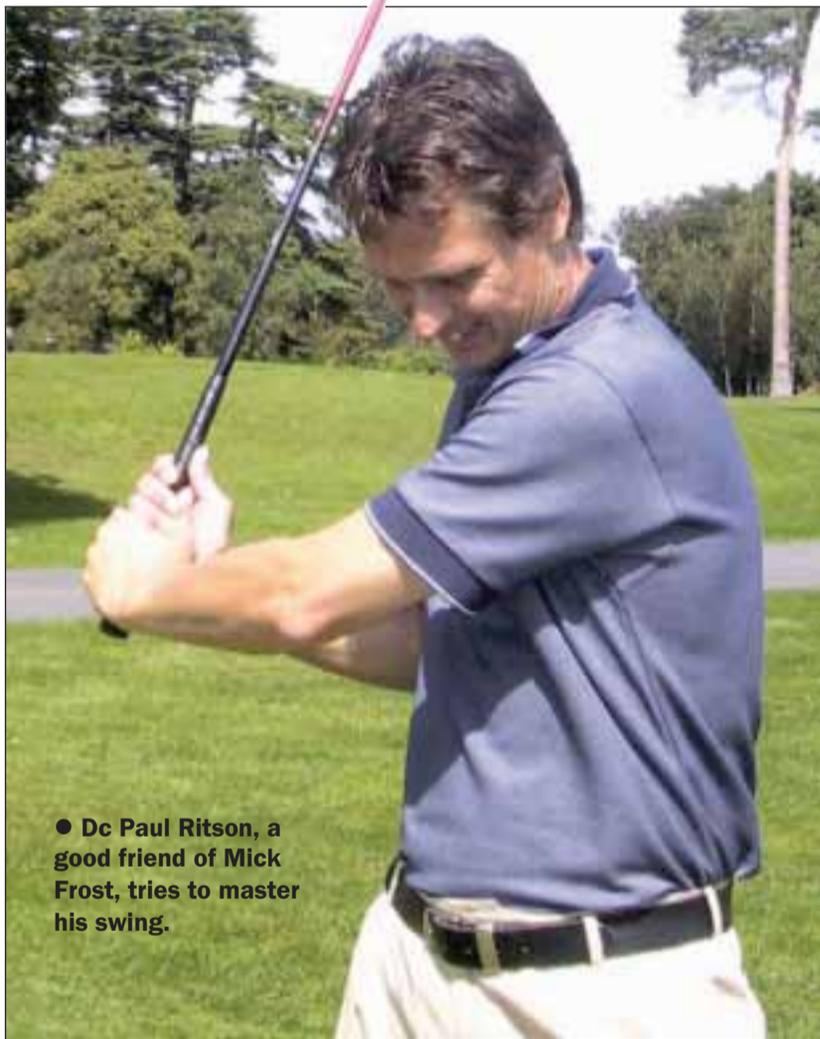
On the only dry day of the week at Stisted Golf Club, 27 golfers played a nine-hole Texas scramble in the morning and an 18-hole stableford competition in the afternoon. The course was in excellent condition and proved to be a good test of abilities with only two people scoring over 34 points.

It was lovely to see Donna Frost bring her two daughters Alice and Emily along to present the prizes in the evening.

Winner of stableford, and awarded the Mick Frost Shield, was Ronnie Stewart with 39 points. Steve Casey came in with 37 points, Greg Potter and Steve Sparrow with 34. Booby prize went to Vaughn High, whose point score is not being disclosed after an impassioned plea.

Nearest the pin on hole 10 was Paul Sheffield but no-one picked up the prize for hole 4. Ronnie Stewart did the double winning the longest drive, Nigel Ginn proved the best putter and the winners of the Texas Scramble were Alan Lewis, Nigel Ginn and Steve Jones. Runners-up were Vaughn High, Paul Sheffield, Chris Heaffey and Steve Casey.

Donna and the girls were delighted to see so many people involved and thanked everyone for supporting the event.



● Dc Paul Ritson, a good friend of Mick Frost, tries to master his swing.

## Are you up to the China challenge?

A CANCER charity is looking for people with a sense of adventure to embark on a demanding trek across the Great Wall of China.

The challenge is on behalf of the Helen Rollason Cancer Care Centre Appeal and will take you on a journey over parts of the wall dating back to the Ming dynasty, originally built to keep out nomadic tribes and running 2,500km from the east coast to the Gobi desert.

The nine-day trip will see you walking an average of 12km each day for five days through mountains and spectacular scenery.

After all the hard work you will be

taken to Beijing to explore the attractions including the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven and the Lama Temple.

The full cost of the trip is around £1,495 plus as much sponsorship as you can raise. Alternatively, you can

## Chip in and help Essex wildlife

SWING into action and help protect the wildlife of Essex.

A charity golf day is being held at Channels Gold Club in Little Waltham, with all proceeds going to the Essex Wildlife Trust.

The event takes place on Tuesday, September 28 and includes 27 holes, a cooked lunch, green fees, a three-course dinner and prizes.

pay just £395 for registration and insurance but will need to raise a minimum sponsorship of £2,500.

For more details and available dates contact Rachel Vipond at the Helen Rollason Cancer Care Centre Appeal on 01245 513285.

There will be a nine-hole course for teams of four, an 18-hole Stableford for individuals, nearest the pin, putting competition and longest drive.

All this for an entry fee of £60 plus VAT per person.

For more details or an application form contact Michele Farrant on 01621 862984 or email her at [michelef@essexwt.org.uk](mailto:michelef@essexwt.org.uk).

## Cruise deal

IF you book your 2005 cruise before October 30 you will get ultra low cost deals before the brochure's published.

Eight day cruises from only £469 explore the Med, Adriatic, Aegean, Baltic or the Fjords. Space is limited so ring 01293 553232 to book, quoting Essex Police Sports Association, or to find out more ask for Concierge Gold Service.

Alternatively visit the website [www.carefreegroup-travel.com](http://www.carefreegroup-travel.com) or speak to John Stonehouse on 58888 or email.

## Lottery winners

THE winner of August's lottery scooping £3,000 was analyst Tony Bugg based at HQ's IT Service Desk.

Runner-up with £1,000 was Dc Gary Matthews from Chelmsford CPU with £500 going to Dragan Andrejevic from Colchester Service Desk.

Seven £100 prizes went to: Dc Dick Bailey, Crime; Pc Gary Lambert, Colchester; Jaime Scrivener, Colchester; Dave Swann, Loughton; Pc Kristan Reddick, Basildon; Dc Anthony Boughey, Stanway MIT and Pc John Hillhouse, Thurrock.

Eight prizes of £50 went to: Sgt Chris Vale, Southend; Sgt Simon Norris, Stansted Airport; Pc Steven Osborn, Braintree; Pc Barry Knights, MSD; Ds Julian Cole, Tendring; Sgt Roger Mallett, Tendring; Pc Simon Clarke, MSD and Pc Dru Willcock, FIR.

August's special prize of a meal for four at Chicago Rock Café in Chelmsford was awarded to Sgt Paul Fincham, MSD.

