

# The Law



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October 2005

## UNSOLVED RAPES WILL BE REVIEWED

### Keeping ACTION in the family

A FATHER and son were sharing a table at this year's Gala ACTION award dinner after both were nominated for awards by their departments.

John and Peter Garland were put up for police staff awards by the Criminal Justice (CJD) and Professional Standards (PSD) departments respectively. John, 63, joined the then Essex Constabulary in 1967. He previously worked in PSD as a detective sergeant, then known as Complaints and Discipline, and retired in 1997.

After a couple of years away he rejoined the force and has been in PSD ever since.

Son Peter, 22, started his career on a part-time basis three years ago, when he was a student at Leicester University.

In July last year, he joined CJD full-time and is now based at HQ.

He is currently awaiting his start date after successfully applying to join as an officer.

Det Chief Insp Alan Gooden, Support Manager at PSD, said: "John's loyalty to the organisation is without question. His enthusiasm and ability to deal with the work he is allocated is amazing for a man of his service."

And Tricia Brennan, Resource and Operations Manager at CJD, said: "Peter epitomises ACTION Leadership in the truest sense and we look forward to charting his career as an officer, following the family tradition."

● ACTION award-winners can be found on Page 5

**UNSOLVED rape cases in the county are set to be reviewed as the force's 'cold case' team increases in size, enabling it to widen its scope.**

Funding for a temporary additional post has been agreed to enable the Investigative Review Team to analyse more cases of serious sexual assault.

It is hoped that, as with murder cases, new technology, advances in science and media appeals will help find answers and bring justice to the victims and families

by **Kim Perks**

affected by such crimes.

The move follows a report published by the Home Office in March this year encouraging forces to pursue 'cold case' reviews of stranger sex attacks and providing a template for a process of forensic review and investigation to increase the potential of detection.

The work of three pilot forces and the lessons they learned are reflected in the Home Office report, along with an illustration of the pilots' successes.

The Metropolitan Police, for instance had, at the time of evaluation, obtained 138 DNA profiles from 169 samples submitted for analysis and 56 suspects were identified.

In one of their cases they succeeded in a conviction even though the

victim was no longer alive to give evidence.

Investigative review officer Ray Newman, himself a retired detective, said: "Review is not a total reinvestigation of the case, it is about identifying those situations where scientific and technological advances may bring fresh evidence and, in cases where there were suspects, allegiances may have changed and witnesses need to be revisited.

"As the Home Office report so succinctly puts it, it is about utilising the forensic technology of today to solve crimes of the past with a view to preventing crimes of the future."

The team is currently assessing all unsolved cases to identify which have the potential for further investigation, and is now keen to hear from officers, both serving or retired, who know of undetected cases they feel

should be reviewed.

The new post, which will concentrate solely on researching stranger rape and attempted rape cases to identify opportunities for detection, will initially be a six-month post before being re-evaluated.

The team is also acutely aware of the sensitivities surrounding sex attacks and the need for confidentiality to be respected, especially as some victims may have not divulged details to friends and families.

Therefore victims will not be contacted until there is sufficient evidence to suggest the case could be resolved.

Since the Investigative Review team was formed in August 2003, a number of arrests have been made and one man faces trial later this month suspected of the murder of Norah Trott in Rochford in 1978.



● Debbie Walne is now back at work in the Fraud and Deception Unit at Rayleigh

Picture by Tim Peek

### Debbie's bursting with life after her second transplant

DEBBIE Walne is hoping that it's second time lucky as she returns to work following a kidney transplant.

Debbie, 33, joined Essex Police in 1991 and began her career at Southend but, at the young age of 21, was diagnosed with chronic renal failure.

She underwent a kidney transplant in 1997 and returned to work at the earliest opportunity, even being issued with specialist protective equipment to enable her to perform street duties.

Unfortunately, the nature of her condition meant that the transplant was never fully successful and the kidney was removed in 2000. Since then, Debbie has had to undergo dialysis three times a week but she continued to work at Hadleigh and Rayleigh.

And life wasn't all bad as in April this year Debbie (nee Bailey) married Rochford sergeant John Walne.

Then, on May 11 she was contacted by The Royal

by **Roger Grimwade**

London Hospital to say that it had a perfect match on a kidney suitable for transplant.

The chances of having such a match are one in 40,000. Debbie received the new kidney the following day and all seems to be going well.

After four months' recuperation she has returned to work in the Fraud and Deception Unit at Rayleigh for four hours a day but is hoping to become full-time again.

Debbie is full of praise for the support she has received from Essex Police and her colleagues, but saves special thanks for her husband and Mum and Dad.

Debbie added: "Besides saying a big 'thank you' to everyone, I want to encourage everyone to sign up as an organ donor, so that other people can benefit as I have done."

● You can now register as an organ donor at [www.uktransplant.org.uk](http://www.uktransplant.org.uk) or ring 0845 6060400.



# Part-time pensions guide

## THE long-awaited part-time Pension Regulations finally came into effect on June 22.

As with most regulations, they are not written in terms which are easy to read or, indeed, understand, but hopefully the précis below will help.

Another important point to note is that these Pension Regulations are backdated to 1992 so, even if you are or have been part-time, it could affect your original pension calculations.

Part-time service in the Police was introduced in 1992 but there have long been concerns that the position on pensions was unsatisfactory for part-time officers.

### The Police Pension Scheme

The Police Pension Scheme is a final salary scheme, which means that the value of your pension when you retire does not depend upon the financial value of the contributions you have paid during your service.

Instead, each year that you make pension contributions, you will earn a specified fraction of your final salary by way of pension when you retire. A full-time officer earns 1/60th of their final salary for each year of the first 20 years' service and 2/60ths for each year after that.

The maximum pension payable under the scheme, excluding injury awards, is 40/60ths of final salary. This is ordinarily earned after 30 years' full-time service –  $20 \times 1/60\text{ths} + 10 \times 2/60\text{ths} = 40/60\text{ths}$ .

### The old approach

The old approach was to calculate pensionable service on a *pro rata* basis for periods of part-time service.

This generally meant that part-time officers would have to serve for longer periods to get the same rights as full-time officers.

For example, an officer working 20 hours per week instead of 40 hours would have to work two years to accrue 1 year of pensionable service. It would take that officer 60 years to accrue a full 40/60ths pension.

It was also identified that part-time officers were actually better off than full-timers in some respects because the option to purchase enhanced benefits under the scheme was based on payment of a percentage of salary.

A part-timer on a lower salary than a full-timer would get the same benefits for a lower contribution.

The new regulations aim to remove these anomalies with a new approach.

### New regulations

The basic approach of the new

regulations can be split into three points:

1 The pension of an officer who has had a period of part-time service is calculated by identifying the pension which would be payable had the officer worked full-time throughout his/her service, and then scaling that pension down to reflect periods of part-time service. *\*see example right*

2 A part-time officer who reaches 30 years' service but hasn't yet earned a 40/60ths pension can carry on earning fractions of his/her final salary at the rate of 1/45th *per annum* subject to the overall maximum pension of 40/60ths.

3 Part-time officers who have elected to pay additional contributions to purchase increased benefits will have to pay those additional contributions at the same rate as a full-time officer from June 22 unless the part-time officer chose to pay a reduced rate of contributions – in return for reduced benefits – by September 21.

### Backdating

The calculation of ordinary pensions, ill-health pension, deferred pensions and injury awards can be applied retrospectively back to 1992. This may mean that the pensions of officers who have

already retired will be recalculated.

However, the regulations make it clear that if the old method is more favourable to the pensioner than the new, the old method will continue to be used. No-one should be worse off because of these changes applied retrospectively.

The regulations provide for interest to be payable where a recalculation results in payment of arrears.

In relation to the purchase of increased benefits, the position is different.

It was your choice, if you are making additional contributions, whether to:

- 1 Allow your contributions to go up to the same level as would be paid by a full-time officer – thus purchasing increased benefits at the same rate as a full-time officer would get them, or
- 2 To have elected by September 21 to pay your additional contributions at a percentage of your actual part-time salary, meaning that the benefits you get will also be reduced.

### Example

An officer retires after 25 years' service in 2005 but has had ten years of working part-time on 50 per cent of hours between 1993 and 2003. Their final salary is £36,000.

*Old regulations:* They have 20 years of pensionable service – 15 full-time and ten half-time – so have earned 20/60ths of final salary. Their annual pension is therefore 20/60ths of £36,000 = £12,000.

*New regulations:* If the officer had been full-time throughout their service, their annual pension would have been 30/60ths of £36,000 = £18,000.

But, because of the part-time service, they have, in fact, pensionable service of only 20 years, which is 80 per cent of 25 years.

The pension will therefore be 80 per cent of £18,000 = £14,400.

Note that this could also mean an increase in the lump sum payable on retirement because the calculation of the lump sum is based on the annual pension figure and the age of the person at retirement.

In this example, assuming the officer was 55 at retirement and commuted the maximum amount, their entitlement under the old regulations would be to a lump sum of £48,750 and a reduced annual pension of £9,000.

Under the new regulations the lump sum would be £58,500 and the reduced annual pension would be £10,800.

# Police divorce representation, it's an open and shut case.

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## Worried about your pension? Talk to Gorvins, the police divorce specialists.

**Every divorce is painful: both mentally and financially. If you are a Police Officer that means multiplying the pressures you have to cope with at work to the point that they become unbearable.**

The Gorvins matrimonial team are specifically trained to deal with police officers that are facing marital breakdown and family disputes. Each solicitor's caseload consists of purely police and civilian staff matters.

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## Business as usual is brisk

DAYS of Action has become 'business as usual' as Essex Police has increased the numbers of people being arrested each month.

And this can only be good news for the public as more criminals are being taken off the streets.

Newly-appointed Chief Constable Roger Baker set the ball rolling with his Operation Days of Action initiative, designed to use the extra officers on standby during July's G8 Summit.

And that was just the start – Operation Days of Action netted 1,946 more prisoners during July and 1,624 in August.

Prior to July 2005, the force averaged 107 arrests per day but that has increased by 75 per cent to 188 per day.

The total number of people arrested during July and August was 10,170, of which 2,986 (29.4 per cent) were charged to appear before the courts; 1,516 (14.9 per cent) resulted in cautions, reprimands, warnings, fixed penalty notice disposals, referrals to health agencies etc; and 1,412 (13.9 per cent) were released without charge, while 671 warrants were executed for matters other than non-payment of fines.

And 3,256 (32 per cent) were placed on police bail for further inquiries and there were 329 miscellaneous disposals – such as breach of bail offences (93), immigration cases (55), bailing to other forces, detentions under the Mental Health Act, voluntary interviews and recalls to prison.

The overall detection rate for July and August 2005 has increased to 31.1 per cent, compared to 25.9 per cent for the same period last year.

Plus, the number of complaints against the police for July and August 2005 compared to the same period in 2004 fell by 12 to 140.

Mr Baker said: "Business is brisk but it is business as usual for the force."

"People have seen more officers out on frontline policing duties and there will be more. We want to deal face-to-face with our victims and we want to hear from anyone who has information about crimes that are being committed."

"Report the crime and shop the criminals, we will arrest them."



Corporate Support Reviewer Julia Jeapes – with Pc Bob Foster's daughter Emily and son Robert – presents the £400 cheque to Danbury Youth Camp Manager Colin Urquart, watched by some of the youngsters

## Creating a better future for young adventurers . . .

TWO charities have benefited from a charity walk organised by serving and retired police officers.

Each year, officers and police staff from the force participate in a 26-mile charity walk organised by former Chelmsford Divisional Commander Chief Supt Julia Jeapes, in memory of her brother Bob Foster and colleague Kevin Nowell.

Pc Foster and Pc Nowell were two former Essex Police officers who died from heart disease. Pc Foster suffered a fatal heart attack while on duty in 1998 and Pc Nowell was forced to retire due to a heart condition. Sadly he died earlier this year, with monies given to the British Heart Foundation and Mountain Rescue.

This year's walk, in Hope Valley, Derbyshire, raised approximately £200, which was given to the British Heart Foundation in memory of the two. And an ex-colleague's links with Bolton-based car parking security company APCOA UK led to the firm donating £400 to another cause which reflected the pair's interests in hill walking and adventure training.

APCOA UK gave its cash to Essex County Council's Youth Camp in Danbury, which this year has been involved in training 10,000 young people.

# Recruitment drive lasts just one day

## Giving the people what they want

**A DELUGE of applications meant that a planned one-month recruitment campaign for Essex Police finished in just over six hours.**

The campaign started at 8.30am on Monday, October 3, and before the end of the day, the force had received requests from more than 600 people wanting an application pack.

But Head of Recruitment, Chief Insp Steve Robinson, said those people who had been disappointed to find that the latest campaign had already come to a halt should consider joining the Special Constabulary while they wait for the next recruitment drive.

The Personnel and Training Department had encouraged online and postal applicants to join 'the busiest and largest force in the eastern region' – with a maximum of 150 online applications being allowed via the national police recruiting website [www.policecouldyou.co.uk](http://www.policecouldyou.co.uk)

Chief Insp Robinson said: "Policing in Essex is an exciting, challenging and rewarding career and we're offering an opportunity for people to make a positive

difference to the diverse community we serve, whilst enjoying their new life as a police officer. It's a very sought-after job."

The recruitment team was unsure how long the campaign would run before its target of application packs requested was met because neighbouring police forces have not recruited for a while.

"So we were not surprised all the packs were requested so quickly," said Chief Insp Robinson. "We had always planned to stop before the four weeks were up."

Essex Police has decided to use a 'pulse' method of recruitment, whereby it 'opens its doors' briefly when waiting lists drop. Chief Insp Robinson explained that the previously open-ended, rolling method of recruitment had led to waiting lists becoming unmanageable and to applicants waiting for too long.

In consultation with Essex Police Authority, it was decided to continue recruit from the list until it was brought down to a more manageable size.

There is now only an eight-month wait, hence this month's planned campaign to target new recruits.

People interested in joining Essex Police who missed out on this round of

applications are being advised to keep an eye on the force website – [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk) – for news of the next 'recruitment window'.

But Chief Insp Robinson said people keen to get a taste of life in Essex Police could apply to join the Special Constabulary in the meantime.

Being a Special gave people a real insight into policing, to help them decide if it was right for them, he said.

And it was a good way for Essex Police to find out about an individual's skill and potential to become a police officer.

There was a strong link between the Specials and recruiting regular police officers, he added, which is about to become stronger and more structured with the arrival next month of Supt Janet Jefferson as Head of Resourcing.

- To keep an eye on vacancies for Essex Police staff, and information about becoming a PCSO or a Special – and for news about the next round of recruitment – visit [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk) and click on recruitment

- Or ring Sarah Brown on 01245 452824 for information about becoming a Special Constable

ANOTHER 65 police officers have been introduced to the streets of Essex.

The total number of officers released for front line duties since July is now 90.

One of Chief Constable Roger Baker's promises was to deliver a total of 200 officers back to the front line by March 31.

Increasing visible policing is one of Essex Police and Essex Police Authority's (EPA) main priorities, as are reducing anti-social behaviour and improving contact with communities.

Mr Baker said: "I believe in a policing style where everyone in Essex can expect a first-class service. That style is one of an increased presence on our streets and I will continue to ensure that visible policing is at the forefront of policing in Essex."

"I will also continue to strive to keep crime and the fear of crime and disorder down, detections up, and an increased public satisfaction with policing services."

EPA chairman Robert Chambers added: "I am delighted we have been able to release these officers on to the front line."

"The new policing style in Essex is all about people policing, and we are delivering what the public have told us they want."

## Radio Europe

CALLING all amateur radio hams – fancy a regular link-up with Hungary?

Gabor Kutasi, Water Police Commander with Siofok City Police in Lake Balaton, is an amateur radio enthusiast looking to correspond with an Essex officer with a similar interest.

- Contact Insp Kevin Jacobs at Maldon on ext 62100.

## Operation nets 20 arrests

TWENTY arrests were made during a two-day operation aimed at disrupting and detecting bogus caller crimes, where suspects trick their way into the homes of elderly people to steal.

The majority of the arrests took place on traveller sites in Wickford and South Ockendon but Essex Police have made it clear that the operation was about individuals, not communities.

Police have intelligence that those committing bogus caller offences tend to immerse themselves in

travelling communities.

Officers were also armed with a number of warrants against named individuals for other outstanding offences, such as non-payment of fines.

Nine people were arrested in Wickford, eight in South Ockendon, one in Chelmsford, one in Colchester and one in Kent.

Two caravans, a gearbox, and engine and a generator, all believed stolen, were recovered and Essex Trading Standards served a summons on a resident at one Wickford site for rogue trading.

## Problem is driven away

SOLVING the problems caused by youths riding mini-motos anti-socially has reaped benefits for Tendring Division.

In early summer, Clacton police and Tendring District Council were receiving numerous complaints from two areas of Clacton relating to this nuisance.

So, problem-solving team Sgt Sharon Wyatt met council staff and then sought advice from HQ problem-solving team. This resulted in 1,000 questionnaires being handed out to all Year 8, 9 and 10 pupils in local schools.

The survey outcome drastically changed perceptions – relatively few of those polled owned a mini-moto and the main user group did not own one at all, but borrowed them.

It was concluded that a mini-moto park was

not practical or financially justified for such a small group of people and that a focused campaign of enforcement and publicity, could reap rewards.

The police dealt with the anti-social riding by using powers under the Police Reform Act 2003 which led to the issue of a number of warnings and, then, enforcement of those warnings by seizing a number of mini-motos.

And the council financed, produced and distributed information leaflets and posters.

By mid August, councillors had received no further complaints from residents and complaints direct to the police had reduced dramatically.

- See Page 7 for news on how the problem-solving team can help you

# Law Letters

**HAVE YOUR SAY:** Write to Heather Turner, Law Letters, Press Office, Police HQ, PO Box 2, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6DA.

Letters and emails must include full name and home town. We reserve the right to edit letters. Please be aware The Law is reproduced on the internet and circulated to the media.

## We'd like to say 'thanks to you all'

MAY I, through the columns of The Law, thank everyone who attended my retirement evening on August 25.

Thanks also for the gifts I received, together with the many cards and messages, including those from friends and colleagues who could not attend.

I thoroughly enjoyed the evening and was so grateful that, despite the holiday season, so many people turned up.

I am already enjoying my new career with the Independent Police Complaints Commission, where I have certainly been thrown in at the deep end, five weeks earlier than planned.

There is, however, no doubt that after 34 years with Essex Police, I will miss the many special people with whom I have had the privilege of working – it has been a real pleasure.

**Ex-Det Chief Supt Steve Reynolds  
Thorpe Bay**

● I WOULD like to offer my thanks to everyone who was involved in making the police pensioners' party such a success on September 16.

I have been attending this special day since 1981 in one capacity or another and I have enjoyed it every time.

It is so nice to see my old friends and colleagues each year and talk about the 'old times'.

It is also good to talk to the young officers attending to we 'older chaps' and trying to learn a little of what is new in the job!

A lot of work must go into making the day a success, from the band, caterers and drivers etc and I again thank them all.

I would just like to add that it is difficult to get around to talk to everyone so, to anyone I missed, I'll make up for it next year – be warned.

**Alf Henry  
North Weald**

● I WOULD like to take this opportunity to thank the 100-plus colleagues and friends who attended my retirement do in August.

Many thanks for the lovely gifts. Special thanks to Hugh Conerney and Jon Dodman for arranging the bash, to the management at Warley Park Golf Club for putting on an excellent venue and to Eric Pickles MP and Jon for their humorous speeches.

It was really good seeing so many colleagues. During my 30 years, I had the privilege of working with many top-rate officers and police staff.

I wish Essex Police every success in the future. Keep up the good work.

**Peter French  
The Rodings**

● I WOULD like to thank everyone for the kind messages, cards and flowers received when my husband, retired Det Con Colin Prest, died in April.

And I would especially like to thank everyone who came to Colin's 'Celebration of Life' we held on his birthday, September 9, at Essex Police HQ in Chelmsford. It was great to see old friends again and to reminisce about the old times.

With love and thanks to you all.

**Anne Prest and family  
Beverley  
East Yorkshire**

## What do these abbreviations mean?

I HAVE been particularly interested in recent references in The Law to activities at Eynsham Hall in Oxfordshire in the 1950s.

They brought back memories of, among other things, the time spent 'exercising' on the sports field between lunch and the first parade of the afternoon, mentally learning definitions and powers of arrest.

While such practices probably ceased many years ago, I wonder what

'useful' activities have replaced them.

Reading The Law, the answer came to me in a blinding flash – it has to be the learning of the meaning of the terms ANPR, JJB, V2005, ICE, LGBT, CJD, PSUK, NACRO, CC&G etc, or is this information stored electronically on a memory microchip in the PCD (Personal Communication Device)?

On an historic – 1960s – note, does anyone remember the ABC Squad, the AET and the CFU – clue ...

predecessors of the TFG.

As a member of the aforementioned groups, I would like to think that the foundations of our present-day firearms response capability was laid in those far-off days.

**Gus Gowers  
Course 110**

**No 5 PDTC, autumn 1955**

PS I invented the PCD abbreviation, above.

## I agree, we should be fair to all

IN response to the reply from Jack Coles to my letter in the August issue of The Law, I cannot see how my views could be held to be 'alarming'.

I believe them to be well balanced and the product of my having met, worked with and dealt with members of the public and colleagues over the past 25 years.

I wholly subscribe to equal opportunities within the service, between male/female or LGBT/heterosexual staff, regardless of colour or race.

My remark regarding being sick of the expected rights and privileges of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) staff was obviously a figure of speech – I would not consider taking sick leave over such an issue.

I thought our normal interview and induction process was fair to all, regardless of their sexual preferences.

In the main I would accept that the rights and privileges of heterosexual staff are met, whether married or not, but I would not expect to be given time off from work to attend parades or meetings to 'celebrate' the fact that I am heterosexual.

**Det Con Steve Card  
Scenes of Crime, HQ**

● I READ with some interest the letters in the August issue of The Law from Steve Card and Andy Bliss concerning lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered policing issues.

In our day in 'The Job', what took place in the bedroom stayed in the bedroom and had no place at work. Therefore, it is hard to comprehend to what extent 'sex in the workplace' plays such an important part in policing today.

With all that 'political correctness' and 'sex' to contend with, I think it is no wonder policing standards are slipping.

**John Beckett  
Leigh-on-Sea**

# You cannot beat good police work

**I WOULD like to offer my own congratulations to the two Police Community Support Officers – featured in the September issue of The Law – for their success in carrying out some good, old-fashioned, basic police work, which has obviously resulted in the improvement of the quality of life**

**for the members of the public who reside on their 'patches'.**

It would appear that, at last, someone has cottoned on to the fact that 'preventative police work', which involves getting to know the public and gaining their respect and trust, is the essence of effective policing.

Surely the facts speak for themselves but isn't it a pity that all too

many of today's police officers seem not to be prepared to walk the beat and only seem intent on becoming members of a specialist squad.

So, why not put police officers to work preventing crime, instead of chasing shadows of the culprits after the events have happened?

In all aspects of life, 'prevention' has always been more effective than 'the cure' and is usually very much cheaper in the long run.

**David Smith  
Frinton-on-Sea**

## Children's charity can help your case

I WOULD like to push the boat out about the charity Child Victims Of Crime and just remind all readers of The Law of its good work.

The charity is run solely by police officers and is the only national police children's charity. It covers all forces in the UK.

Virtually all of its proceeds are spent on those children affected by crime, be it family holidays or gifts and support to those who have suffered.

I have seen, at first hand, the contribution that the charity made to a whole family after two of their children suffered a terrifying, two-day ordeal.

Of course, like all charities, Child Victims Of Crime is dependent on money raised by sponsorship, either through Gift Aid or by people contributing through charity events.

Information can be found by visiting [www.cvoc.org.uk](http://www.cvoc.org.uk) or by ringing 01785

227325. If anyone is looking for a charity to support in a forthcoming event, please consider this one.

You can also ask the charity to become involved if you have dealt, or are dealing, with a child and family who have suffered from the effects of crime and where you feel that those people could benefit from the help that this charity provides.

**Ken Wright  
Hadleigh**

## Gone . . . but not forgotten

**Pc George William Gutteridge – Essex County Constabulary.  
Served from April 5, 1910, and February 23, 1919. Murdered September 27 1927**

EARLY on September 27, 1927, George Gutteridge left a meeting with fellow Pc Sydney Taylor at Howe Green for the mile walk home.

He never made it. Three hours later, after 6am, Alec Ward dropped mail at Stapleford Abbots Post Office and then continued towards Stapleford Tawney.

On the Ongar Road, just before Howe Green, he discovered the body of a man, semi-sitting up – it was Pc Gutteridge. He raised the alarm at a nearby house and then drove to Stapleford Tawney Post Office, where he rang the police at Romford.

Pc Gutteridge had been shot twice through the head and then again through each eye. He was grasping a pencil stub but his notebook lay in the road. His truncheon and torch were still in his pockets. Two .45 bullets were found at the scene and two in Pc Gutteridge's body.

A huge manhunt was launched and Pc Gutteridge's murder was linked to the theft of a Morris Cowley car from Billericay the same night. The vehicle was found in Stockwell, with an empty cartridge case inside and blood on its running board. In January 1928 evidence

came to light which implicated London criminal Frederick Browne, who had a garage business in Clapham.

Ballistics examinations had established that the bullets found had been fired from a Webley revolver. Browne was arrested and found in possession of several loaded firearms, including a .45 Webley revolver.

A further suspect was arrested in Liverpool – William Kennedy, an associate of Brown. Kennedy was taken to London, admitted being present at the murder and implicated Browne as the man who did the killing. Browne denied any involvement but it was shown that the empty cartridge case found in the Morris Cowley had been fired from the Webley in



● Pc George Gutteridge

Browne's possession when he was arrested. His only defence was that he had obtained the gun from Kennedy after the murder. Both men appeared at the Central Criminal Court where evidence was heard from four ballistics experts. Photographs were used to prove that markings on the cartridge case matched those on the revolver. Both men were convicted

and sentenced to death. Browne went to the gallows protesting his innocence. Subsequent researchers have suggested that Kennedy may have, in fact, acted alone. Pc Gutteridge was married to Rose and they lived in Stapleford Abbots, halfway between Romford and Ongar, with their children Muriel and Alfred (known as Jack).

**For details of all those featured in the Essex Police Roll of Honour visit the Memorial Trust website at [www.essex.police.uk/memorial](http://www.essex.police.uk/memorial) If you have any information you feel could be added to the website email [memorialtrust@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:memorialtrust@essex.pnn.police.uk) or write to the Memorial Trust at police headquarters.**

## Corner the chairman



● Essex Police Authority chairman Robert Chambers

## Driving up the force's performance

“ESSEX Police Authority, with Essex Police, is committed to driving up performance and improving our standards of service to the public.

The county remains one of the safest in the country after nearly 4,000 additional arrests were made in July and August.

I am delighted Chief Constable Roger Baker has set a new standard of policing in keeping with the police authority's policies and I am glad to see that the ever-increasing detections are now 'business as usual'.

The authority is continuing to work in partnership with the Chief Constable to achieve the best possible service for the people of Essex. The authority has detailed its priorities very clearly to Mr Baker and we hope he continues in his role as he has started.

We are delighted he has taken forward our ideas and his achievement in the short time he has been with us in Essex is commendable.

We are also pleased with the recent British Crime Survey results which placed Essex at the top in many categories. We have a commitment with Essex Police to continue to remain at the top for the benefit of our residents. We have the top cop in the country and we want to be the best of the best. We can only get better. ”

What are your views on the Government's proposals for the creation of strategic forces?  
“Amalgamating with other forces is always a possibility. We have been asked to develop a proposal for the creation of strategic forces for our region and we have until Christmas to prepare it. We will always explore the possibilities but we are simply looking at how we can do business better and give the best possible service to the public.

Any proposal by Essex Police will emphasise the need to deliver an improved service to our public”

● To ask Mr Chambers a question, write to Kate Batson, Press and PR Officer, Essex Police Authority, at HQ Press Office. Mr Chambers will select some to reply to next month.

# Technicians win top awards for garage

APPRENTICES in the Transport Services department are flying the flag for Essex Police.

Ben Jeakins, 21, has been named Best Apprentice Of The Year by the regional Institute Of The Motor Industry (IMI).

After a three-year apprenticeship, he is now a skilled technician with the force at the Stanway Workshop, having been taken on when he was 16.

Ben, who attended Sandon School, said he was surprised to win but added: “If I am willing to learn, they are willing to teach me. I have learned a trade and a skill so I am very proud.”

And 19-year-old Chris Grant has been named Apprentice Technician Of The

Year by Basildon College after completing his IMI level 3 Motor Vehicle Maintenance.

The former William De Ferrers School student has been with Essex Police for two years.

“I am enjoying the excitement of working for the police – there's such a variety with different vehicles and different ways of doing things,” he said.

Vehicle Services Manager David Flude said he had introduced the apprenticeship programme in 2000 to enable ‘succession planning’ because the police had unique requirements which mechanics from outside the force might find difficult to fulfil.

And the catalyst for the programme was Daniel Palmer, 22, an ex-Boswells School pupil, who spent two years on work placement in the department during a Braintree College course before being taken on as its first apprentice.

He is now a skilled technician helping to kit out police vehicles with specialised equipment such as Automatic Number Plate Recorders, being on call – he has completed a scenes of crime course – and doing recovery work.

Daniel is now taking a PSV course and has been involved in recruitment.

Mr Flude said he was proud of his award-winners and all the hard work which all of his apprentices put in.



● Pc Kelly Allen  
Pictures by Gary Kenton



● Sgt Stuart Hooper



● PCSO Ella Hearn



● Pc Henry Garrod



● Cadet Hannah Gilchrist



● Pc Paul Ballard

# Simply the best of us all

A SPECIAL awards dinner for police officers and staff saw six of our finest receiving the recognition they deserve.

The Probationer, Community Officer, PCSO and Cadet of the Year were named.

And a Lifetime Achievement and ACTION Achievement awards were handed out.

Chief Constable Roger Baker said: “I was delighted to be involved in the presentation of these awards to police officers and staff. All the winners have demonstrated that putting in that extra bit of effort plus a determination to do a good job gets results.”

Guy Fawkes Night last year turned out to be damp squib for anyone intent on causing trouble on an estate in Chadwell St Mary thanks to Probationer of the Year, Pc Kelly Allen.

Intent on tackling the divisional objective of reducing criminal damage, Kelly wrote her first operational order for an initiative which reduced criminal damage by 90 per cent over the same period the previous year.

### Pc Cool

Since arriving at the Chadwell St Mary Problem Solving Team, Kelly has spent many hours out on foot patrol meeting the public and building up a good rapport with local residents, including youths who call her ‘Pc Cool’.

Her ability to listen, empathise and respond appropriately has not made her lose sight of the need to arrest criminals – she has made 24 arrests in the past ten months.

Kelly, 21 said: “I am enjoying my time in Essex Police and it was an unexpected honour to receive the award.”

An extra trophy was presented for the first time, donated by friends and colleagues in memory of Robert Foster and Kevin Nowell in recognition of the work they did assessing and training probationers.

Community Police Officer of the Year was Sgt Stuart Hooper, also based at Thurrock. His work with the community has already led him to receiving a local civic award for his initiatives to

by Heather Watts

improve the quality of life for residents. Stuart's crime reduction initiatives are second to none and team motivation has led to more than 200 violent crime detections and 500 fewer incidents of criminal damage over last year.

Stuart developed and introduced the final warning surgery, which has now been adopted as best practice throughout the county, dramatically reducing re-offending. His work as divisional Racial Incident and Homophobic Liaison Officer has led to a Chief Constable's Commendation.

### 'Honour and a privilege'

Stuart, 27 said: “It's an honour and a privilege to receive this award, which my managers and the command team have enabled me to achieve.”

Pc Paul Ballard's enthusiasm and bravery helped him to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Paul, in his 22nd and final year of service, is currently a member of the Problem Solving Team at Tendring.

Paul had the potential for advancement but chose to remain a Pc on the frontline, serving the local community and doing a job he clearly loves.

Supervisors heap praise on Paul with the constant theme being his willingness to volunteer, his high work-rate and his commitment. One appraising officer said: “I can only say, as do other supervisors, that he is a ‘diamond’.”

### Three commendations

Paul, 58, has been awarded three commendations for actions both on and off duty. He said: “I am proud to receive the award. It's a good end to my career.”

Pc Henry Garrod, of Basildon, won the police officers' Action Achievement Award. Henry, 54, made the highest number of arrests in Basildon Division over 12 months from July 2004, and is one of the few uniformed officers who regularly returns TICs from prisoners.

His enthusiasm and motivation meant he was chosen as the beat officer to deal with considerable problems on the Craylands estate in Basildon.

Apart from dealing with the criminal element, he had to reassure residents that the estate could and would be

policed properly, forging close links with community leaders and key individuals on the estate. It culminated in a visit from the Prime Minister.

Despite threats to himself and his property, Henry continued to work on the estate until the policing situation was considered to have returned to normality and he was re-assigned to the Town Policing Unit.

Ella Hearn, a PCSO in Braintree, has been awarded the staff Action Achievement Award. Ella is aware that to get the most out of her role she has to interact with the community.

She organised a trip with the youth service and a Safer Schools Partnership officer for a mixed group of youths, some of whom had come into regular contact with police. The trip made the youngsters aware of their responsibilities and gave valuable intelligence which has enhanced her ability as a very effective PCSO on one of the most challenging beats in Braintree. This has led other PCSOs to plan similar events.

### Support and advice

She regularly meets a group of elderly residents, offering her support and advice in areas of reassurance, fear of crime and security.

Ella, 23 said: “I would like to accept the award not just for me but for all PCSOs. It is a great achievement.”

And the Cadet Action Award went to Hannah Gilchrist, at Chelmsford, who joined as a cadet in October 2004.

Hannah is currently taking a BTEC Public Services course as well as managing her attachments. She has been one of four cadets working with the youth forum formed as part of the Essex Police Youth Strategy (PEPYS).

Earlier this year Hannah was part of a small team tasked to prepare a presentation for the PEPYS Youth Conference and used her leadership and organisational skills to allocate tasks to other members. She then wrote a draft and consulted her fellow cadets before perfecting the final version for the 300 delegates, who ranged from young people to officers and members of partner agencies.

Hannah, 18 said: “The support from my parents is fantastic. I always wanted a career with the police and I love it.”

## Units boost hate crime clampdown

WITH hate crime an offence which victims still feel unwilling to report, Essex Police has set up a network of Domestic Violence and Hate Crime Units.

July's terrorist strikes on the London Underground put the issue of hate crime back in the spotlight.

The new units have been set up at the nine divisional police stations and will ‘encourage and support victims while at the same time bringing offenders to justice’, with each one comprising specially-trained police officers and staff.

Assistant Chief Constable Liam Brigginsaw hopes the units will act as an offer of a ‘helping hand’ to victims.

“There is no doubt that hate crime exists within the county and there is still a lack of confidence among victims to report attacks,” said Mr Brigginsaw.

“Prejudice and ignorance drive many of the crimes, including domestic ones, but ignorance is no excuse.”

Hate crime is any offence which is perceived by anyone, especially the victim, to be motivated by prejudice or hate; focusing on race, religion, sexuality, disability, age or gender identity.

Domestic abuse involves anyone with whom the victim has, or recently had, a close relationship; including the abuse of adults by those who should be caring for them.

Last year, there were 960 hate crime complaints to the force. In the first eight months of 2005, Essex Police has received a total of 609 hate crime complaints.

Mr Brigginsaw added: “Help is available to all – they don't have to suffer alone or in silence.”

## New display helps focus on prejudice

A SPECIAL exhibition educating people about prejudice and discrimination is being supported by Essex Police.

The Anne Frank Trust's new touring exhibition draws from the diary that the young Jewish girl wrote during the Holocaust and moves through to contemporary examples of bigotry and hatred, such as the murder of Stephen Lawrence in London in 1993.

Romany gypsies, gay and disabled people were also persecuted during the Holocaust and the Essex Police stand at the exhibition in Southend College will focus on how the force tackles race and hate crimes today.

The aim of the display is to empower individuals and communities to oppose prejudice and discrimination in their daily lives.

● The exhibition is on at the college, off Southend High Street, until October 27.

It is open on weekdays until October 20 from 5.30-8pm, on October 8, 15 and 22 from 9.30am-12.30pm and on October 21 and from 24 to 27, from 10am-8pm.

## Praise for the common sense of our professionals

AN American professor of criminal justice has told of his admiration at the professionalism and care he witnessed on a research visit to Essex Police.

Dr Robert Kane, professor of Justice, Law and Society at American University in Washington, visited the force as part of a comparative examination of the sources of police authority in the US, England and the Netherlands.

Prof Kane, whose visit was organised by then Det Chief Insp Peter French, has been engaged in research into police accountability and discipline in the New York City Police Department.

While in Essex, Prof Kane visited Harlow and Chelmsford divisions as well as Essex Police Training Centre and the Professional Standards Department.

He took part in command team meetings, community policing and general patrols.

Prof Kane said: "During my time in Essex I was impressed both by the professionalism and common-sense approach to policing that personnel exercised.

"The commanders displayed a degree of compassion that I have rarely seen in an American police department."

Prof Kane also took part in several ride-alongs and witnessed two officers defusing a potentially violent encounter through their professional demeanour and quick-thinking.

"Overall, I left Essex with a very favourable impression of the force from the street level to the chief superintendent's office," said Prof Kane.

## Surfing and shopping are the new buzz

YOUNG shoppers went surfing at the launch of a groundbreaking new website at Lakeside Shopping Centre.

They were drawn to the state-of-the-art computer-generated images on the Essex Police PEPYS website.

The site has been developed by the Proactive Essex Police Youth Strategy (PEPYS) project team and its Youth Forum to give information to 12 to 17-year-olds to help them make choices.

Programme Manager Sgt Ian Carter said: "We wanted to create a site that could really help young people get accurate information in a fun and exciting way.

"Working with the Youth Forum has made sure that our site is of interest to young people and we hope that they will use it to get the information they need to make decisions in their life."

The site includes links to information about issues such as graffiti, bullying and what happens if you go to court.

Members of the PEPYS Youth Forum have contributed to the design of the site and the subjects contained and they also feature in a number of the photographs.

The site also contains downloads and games recommended by forum members.

● Visit [www.pepys.org](http://www.pepys.org)



● David Starr, back, centre, with just a few of the Iraqi Police recruits he has trained in Jordan

# A training challenge without compare

**ALTHOUGH I first took a job as a licensing officer with Rochford District Council, I was always adamant in looking for another job abroad, having served in Albania during my police service.**

I completed and passed an assessment course with the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) but it was the Foreign Office which contacted me first and offered me a training job in Jordan.

It was an 'offer I could not refuse' and so I accepted a post as a police instructor at the Jordan International Police Training Centre (JIPTC) – the largest police academy in the world situated at Al Muwaqqar, about 35km outside the capital, Amman.

It trains 3,000 cadets at any one time and has a complement of police instructors from around the world. I have been training Iraqi Police for the past seven months in the arts of democratic policing and survival skills, including counter-ambush techniques, AK47 handling, fire and manoeuvre and first aid.

We hope to teach the students enough to survive for 30 days after

**Retiring in March 2004, David Starr thought he had ended his police career in Rayleigh but, a year later, he found himself still working as a policeman – but in a totally different environment. He spent seven months facing a particularly big challenge – training Iraqi Police to survive in the volatile climate of their home country. Sadly, David is currently convalescing back at home after breaking his leg in two places while out on a cross-country run but is hoping to return to Jordan in the middle of this month and finish his contract, which runs until the end of January.**

their return to Iraq, in which time their personal learning curve will be so great that they will, hopefully, stay alive for a long time afterwards. The recruits have many tales to tell about life in Iraq and their bravery makes me feel very humble. JIPTC is part of the American-led US State Department commitment to improve internal stability in Iraq. Working together with the Jordanian Government, the intention is to process approximately 32,000 Iraqi Police recruits over two years. They are flown into Jordan from the Iraqi capital Baghdad on military flights and are driven in buses to Al Muwaqqar under police escort. On graduation, the recruits return to Iraq for 'field training' but there is a shortage of Field Training

Officers, so most are simply thrown in at the deep end. Together with the graduates from other regional training centres already operating in Iraq, they will gradually begin to supplement and eventually replace the military policing there. JIPTC is a huge site, covering hundreds of acres, situated in remote semi-desert – very dusty when dry and a bog when it rains. At the moment, 1,500 recruits arrive every four weeks for an eight-week course and the recent increased violence towards the police in Iraq has not slowed down recruitment. And the simple reason why the training camp is based in Jordan, a relatively peaceful country, is because it would be just too dangerous to train 32,000 cadets in

Iraq. Most of the international staff are billeted at hotels in Amman and the living conditions and social life are excellent.

For those wishing to explore Jordan, Aqaba, Wadi Rum, Dead Sea and Petra are all within easy reach and well worth visiting. Gordon Macintyre and Doug Hayward are out here as well. Gordon retired from Essex Police as a detective inspector with Special Branch at HQ in 2001, having completed a mission with me in Albania.

This is his second mission since retiring – he has just finished another mission in Kosovo – and he deals with Professional Standards at JIPTC.

Doug only retired a few months ago as an inspector. He has previously served in Albania and Bosnia and, like me, is an instructor at JIPTC, too.

People who keep volunteering to go on these foreign missions are called 'Mission Junkies' and it is a fairly true description of us three. It's a good life so far but unfortunately it will end in another four months. Maybe there will be another mission on the horizon – rumour has it that Sudan will be the next big mission location – or I'll just have to look for another job in cooler climates . . .



● The students have a Graduation Parade after they have completed the eight-week course, above. It involves about 1,500 and is quite impressive, says David Starr. The recruits are marching behind the Iraqi, left, and Jordanian flags

# Memories are made of this

## I THINK you could call my story First Day Alone or How Not To Please The Boss.

It was February 1952 and I was still in my three-week supervision period at Brentwood.

I had been at court – to gain experience – for an hour or so when, because of manpower shortages, I was required to go alone to Tabors Corner at Shenfield and supervise children crossing the then A12 main London road.

I had never been let out on to the streets alone before but at Shenfield I duly saw my children across the road without incident.

Having been told to keep an eye on me, Pc Percy Thorne turned up. I had been hearing during the previous week about two American servicemen, Ross and Wymark, who had escaped from a military prison at Lakenheath in Suffolk and, in the process, murdered an American military policeman. Since their escape, Ross and Wymark had been rampaging around London and southern England in a stolen Sunbeam Talbot, which was the murder weapon, committing many robberies. They were also armed.

Percy then received a call over the car radio, which stated that Ross and Wymark had apparently broken out from St Osyth – where they had been cornered – robbed the Army and Navy pub in Chelmsford, about 11 miles from us, at gunpoint and were driving along the A12 towards London, ie towards where I was standing.

Percy immediately drove off towards Chelmsford leaving me alone at the roadside . . .

My training at Eynsham Hall in Oxfordshire had emphasised that from time to time I would have to make quick decisions on the run that may well have much greater consequences than could be imagined. My children were due back to return to school and it was possible that, at



**In February 1952, Arthur Norris was a 'wet-behind-the-ears' probationer, still within his three-week supervision period, at Brentwood when he was confronted with a situation which would have tested the nerve of many a senior officer.**

**Two desperate escapees, who had already committed murder, were heading his way and Arthur had a party of schoolchildren under his wing ...**

**Arthur went on to have a long career with Essex Police, retiring in 1976 as a sergeant at Benfleet.**

**He now lives near Brisbane in Queensland and is pictured, left, in 1964 when he was the only sergeant at Rayleigh.**

the same time, the stolen Sunbeam Talbot and perhaps a police car or two would pass. I decided I must keep the children on the footpath until matters became clearer. I looked towards Chelmsford and the stolen vehicle came into view, travelling very fast. I thought that it seemed rather futile to do what I did, namely to give the appropriate signal for the vehicle to stop, knowing full well that this was unlikely.

At the same time, I remembered what I had read about the two men in the car and that they had already killed a policeman so, instinctively, I drew my truncheon, gave a stop signal and, when it was obvious the vehicle was not going to stop, threw the truncheon at the car.

It was a perfect shot. It hit the windscreen right in front of the driver's face, the windscreen shattered and went opaque, the driver was obviously blinded and, only a short distance along the road, crashed the car into a brick wall at the side of the road. I ran towards it and, as a man escaped from the nearside door and ran off, the driver was struggling to get out. I was aware that I had lost my only means of defence, namely my

truncheon, and had a vision of having to face a big Yankee gangster with gun in hand. Instead, he appeared to be a little runt of a man, pleading for mercy and relatively easy to apprehend. The loaded gun I feared was later found inside the car. By this time Percy had shown up and took my prisoner, Ross, and me to Brentwood Police Station. A Pc Davies, from Epping, captured the second man, Wymark, about half an hour later.

This was my first arrest and, at the police station, I was met by my sergeant, Len Hawes, and Det Sgt 'Nobby' Clark, who took me to his office where I told him my story. He quickly typed several copies in the form of a statement and ensured that some entries were made in my pocketbook. He left a copy of this statement on my superintendent's desk and pinned another copy to Ross's detention sheet.

I thought this was all being done in rather a hurry. My prisoner was wanted for murder and it seemed strange that a detective sergeant should type my statement for me – perhaps I was needed back at Shenfield to help children across the road again after school finished for the day.

'Nobby' mumbled something about 'poaching'. He explained that a team of detectives, including Det Chief Insp Barkway, a senior Met officer, and a high-ranking American policeman, had been tracking Ross and Wymark, collecting evidence and the like. The sighting and subsequent trapping of these men at St Osyth was to be a high point in the careers of these senior officers.

It was no part of their plan that a lone probationer constable on his bike should take a moment or two off from his other duties, arrest Ross and set up the later arrest of Wymark by another lone constable. The incidents these men had been involved in had attracted a lot of national media attention and I had deprived them of appearances at press conferences stating how they had led their highly-trained and motivated team and brought the two escapees to justice etc etc.

With a wry smile, my chief inspector, Peagram, muttered something to me about being one ahead of the CID. Still smiling, he asked where my truncheon now was and said perhaps CID should be sent to search for it. I thought: "More importantly, where's my bike?" The next day an identification parade was held on the forecourt of



● After a 24-year career with Essex Police, Arthur Norris emigrated to Australia and is now a volunteer radio operator, left, with the Australian Coastguard

Brentwood Police Station so that I could formally identify Ross as the driver.

The parade was conducted by the American military. Ross appeared and, following a successful 'identification', I was interviewed in turn by American prosecution and defence lawyers. Det Chief Insp Barkway was present

during these proceedings but studiously avoided any form of eye contact or direct speech with me. One of the Americans explained to me that, as Ross and Wymark would be charged with murder, they were both American, the victim was an American and the offence occurred on a US base – designated as American soil under the various Visiting Forces

Acts – then their trial would take place in America. As I was the only person who could tie the suspects to the car it would be necessary for me to travel to America for the trial. At this point, Barkway left the room – I suspect the thought of lost further glory and a trip to America was just too much.

As it turned out I did not travel to America as an American court was set up shortly afterwards at Newbury in Berkshire. At their trial, Ross and Wymark were cleared of first-degree murder but convicted on a lesser charge – still murder – and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, which then meant they would never be released.

## New-look Essex Police website just hits the spot

THE all-new force website is proving to be a huge hit with the public with hundreds signed up to get all the latest news from Essex Police.

The revamped site was launched last month and is geared towards better navigation for users and much improved aesthetics.

[www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk) gets almost four million requests for its 500 pages each year, and sends out more than 4,000 email alerts a month from its news pages, Newswire.

The site offers a vast amount of information to visitors, from crime prevention advice to how to apply for a job with the force.

Since the launch of the new-look site, more than 600 people have registered to receive emailed job vacancy alerts and 500 to get news emailed direct to them.

Web developer Steve Pollard, who re-styled the website, said: "We wanted to make the new site much more accessible than the old one and give people the opportunity to subscribe to free email alerts.

"We've made the homepage much more dynamic too, with daily changes to take account of the latest information from the force."

And feedback from visitors to the new site has shown the internet team has achieved those aims.

Users have called the site 'slick', 'much more professional' and 'stylish'.

Internet manager David White said: "The work that's been done on the site has provoked a really positive response from the public and, after all, they're who we need to be communicating with clearly.

"Hopefully, visitors will find it easy to use and easy on the eye – and we're always open to feedback on what we could be doing better."

## 'Help us to solve your problems'

COMMUNITY Safety will be visiting divisions in the coming months to assess how the force has adapted to the problem-solving style of policing.

The Problem Solving Team – Pc Karen Brimson, Pc Mike Kellett and John Wilson – will be speaking to every Community Policing Team to build a picture of how the policing style is developing.

Crime Reduction Inspector Dave Northcott said the visits would be a chance to set a baseline of where the force was in terms of working with its partners to eradicate troublesome issues.

Insp Northcott said: "We want to check out where we are in terms of using the SARA process – scanning, analysis, response and assessment – to tackle problems.

"But we also want to hear from you if you've got ideas to contribute, so look out for the team in the coming months." ● For more information, contact the central Problem Solving Team on ext 54446.

## Law Classifieds

### Holiday lets

**ANDALUCIA**, Spain. Two-bedroom apartment, quiet location, ideal walking, cycling and horse riding. Lakes and views away from tourist trail. £120 per week. Contact Arthur Emmett on 01376 515445.

**COSTA Blanca**, La Marina, two-bed, two-bathroomed luxury villa, sleeps four to six. Small private estate, communal pool, five minutes from golf and beach, 25 minutes from airport. Special rates in low season/monthly lets. Contact Mick Ager on +34 617 110 096 or email casadomi02@hotmail.com

**COSTA Blanca**, three-bedroom, two bathroom detached house, sleeps six. Lounge, dining room, balcony and solarium. DVD/Sky, barbecue. Close to Blue Flag beaches and golf. Contact Brian Cook on 07814 591129 or email brian.cook@essex.pnn.police.uk

**COSTA Calida**, La Manga, two-bedroom apartment, sleeps six. Overlooking golf course and sea, 20 yards to beach. Gardens, two pools, tennis. Sailing school close by. Cheap flights to Murcia or Alicante. Ring Gary Franklin on 07753 606996.

**FLORIDA**, Disney, four-bedroom villa, three bathrooms. Private pool, air conditioning, cable TVs, DVD, CD, PlayStation, games room. Golf five mins, Disney 15 mins. Ring Karen or Chris McAulay on 01625 431373 or 07881 614045, visit www.mcaulayvilla.com or email mcaulay60@hotmail.com

**FLORIDA**, new, luxury, five-bedroom villa, sleeps 12. Three en-suites, air conditioning, games room with pool table, private, screened pool, Jacuzzi spa, Disney and Champions Gate golf course ten mins. From £600. Visit www.floridianretreat.com

**FLORIDA**, Sarasota. Villa sleeps six. Quiet village environment. Communal pool, tennis, barbecue, clubhouse, hot tub, beautiful beaches. Contact Norma Gill via email at norma@desgill.com

**HOLIDAY** accommodation in southern Spain, 30 minutes from Malaga airport. Large, luxury, first-floor apartment, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, pool. Ideal for golf or beach. Contact Sue or Mike on 01621 838179 or +34 650 124 382 for details.

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

**ORLANDO**, three-bedroom villa, sleeps eight, private pool, close to Disney, from £350pw. Contact John De'ath on 01245 420043.

**SCOTTISH** Highlands. Associates to police welcome at our beautiful home on a B&B basis, offering en-suite and a welcome. Now offering fishing in private trout loch, shooting, walking, bird-watching, ski-ing or general 'chilling out' in stunning scenery in the Cairngorms National Park. Reductions for police. Ring Andy Nunn on 01479 841717 or e-mail apf.nunn@btinternet.com

**SOUTH** of France, three-bedroom villa, sleeps six, quiet complex. Mediterranean coast 150m. Visit

www.la-cypriette.com email kevin.harman@freeuk.com or ring 01702 470926.

**TENERIFE**, two-bed, two-bathroomed villa, at Amarilla Golf on south coast, sleeps six. Sea view, satellite TV. From £300 per week. Ring Dave Britton on 01702 201701.

**TURKEY**. Two-bedroom apartment, sleeps six, air-conditioned, 150 yards from Mediterranean beach, shared pool, two hours from ski slopes. Tranquil setting. £200pw. Contact Roy Waghorne on 07803 522737.

**TUSCANY**, Italy. Rustic and romantic medieval village house nestling in the foothills of the mountains of northern Tuscany. Breathtaking views. One hour to Florence, Pisa and coast. Ring 07919 057437 or visit www.tuscanlife.co.uk

**TWO**-bedroom apartment in a Spanish hacienda set in a large olive grove overlooking Lake Vinuela. Contact Sue or Mike on 01621 838179 or +34 650 124 382 for details.

### Flats & rooms to rent

**BRAND** new, two-bedroom, first-floor flat in Basildon. Bathroom and ensuite. Parking space. Ready in November or December. £650 pcm. Call Amanda on 01268 782949.

**LUXURY**, two-bed flat to rent. Part-furnished, Lexden Road, Colchester, available soon. Contact Karen on 01279 680298.

### Cars and bikes

**FORD KA**, luxury, 2004 reg, silver, only 16 months old, all usual extras, leather trim, 20 months' manufacturers' warranty remaining. £6,200. Contact John Staines on 07801 100572.

**RENAULT** Clio 1.4 16v Dynamique, January 2003, platinum, 24k miles, FSH, CD player, alloys, auto lights and wipers, warranty and tax until January 2006. £5,500ono. Contact Nicola on 07792 284287.

**VESPA** / Piaggio for sale, silver/black MINT 2003 ET4 50cc, 1,200kms, five months old, includes lock, helmet and Vespa cover. £900 ono, contact Ryan on 07766 441267.

### Miscellaneous

**ATX** Midi computer tower for sale. 1.4Ghz, 266 Mhz FSB, 512MB RAM, 40GB hard-drive, CD r/w, DVD player, 32MB NVIDA, video card, sound card, floppy disk, Windows installed. £150. Email linseyfrost@hotmail.com

**GOOD** homes wanted for cats and kittens. Contact Miss S Parsonson on 01206 864284.

**KING** Snake golf clubs, three iron to sand wedge, three and five wood, graphite shafts, bag included, in good condition. Ideal starter set, £165 ono. Contact 07971 459963.

**MATSUI** video recorder for sale, auto set-up, twin-speed, on-screen display, Video Plus and remote. In full working order, £20. Email linseyfrost@hotmail.com

**PACKARD** Bell easy-one silver 3131 laptop for sale, 1.3Ghz, Intel Celeron processor, 256MB, 20GB hard-drive, 14.1in display, CD r/w, DVD drive, floppy disk, Dolby digital, Windows XP, £200. Email linseyfrost@hotmail.com

# Helping to fight the bureaucratic tide

**JACQUI** Cheer has gained temporary promotion to the rank of Assistant Chief Constable but, sadly, is now at the Home Office where she is heading up the Bureaucracy Task Force in the Police Reform Unit.

The 43-year-old leaves Southend's divisional commander responsibilities in the hands of Deputy Divisional Commander, T/Chief Supt Steve Currell.

Chief Constable Roger Baker said: "I'm delighted to see that Jacqui's abilities have been recognised. While she was at Southend for a relatively short time, she made her presence felt."

Mrs Cheer joined the force in 1984. "I am really looking forward to working with the Home Office and forces to reduce bureaucracy at such an important time but I'm sorry to leave Southend after only six months," she said.

"I enjoyed my time there, working with a great team of people who believed in focusing on the needs of victims and reassuring the diverse communities which make up Southend."

**Tim Wills** is the newest recruit to the Major Investigation Section (MIS) as he becomes a temporary detective superintendent and senior investigating officer at Harlow. The 42-year-old arrived from Basildon, where he was DCI for three years.

Having joined Essex from the Metropolitan Police in 1986, Mr Wills has 23 years' service across the county, with



• T/ACC Jacqui Cheer

memorable stints in Crime Division, at Basildon, Colchester and Harlow and in the Force Support Unit.

"It's nice to rejoin Crime Division and I look forward to helping to tackle serious and major crime across the county," said Mr Wills.

### Retirement

Chief Supt **Dave Murthwaite** said goodbye to the force last month as he retired after 33 years' service with Essex. Taking over at Colchester is Tendring Divisional Commander Chief Supt Dave Hudson.

Mr Murthwaite, 54, has served at various locations across the county - Clacton, Harlow, Essex Police Training Centre (EPTC), Chelmsford, Braintree and HQ.

He took over at Colchester after moving from EPTC in 2001 and cites the development of the division's community policing team as the 'main of many' highlights as chief superintendent.

He said: "I've established a good community policing structure and the three teams that exist in the division certainly do provide an excellent service - a fact illustrated by recent

## Names in the news



• T/Det Supt Tim Wills

awards and accolades they have received."

Highlighting his role as a ground commander at Brightlingsea's animal rights' protests in 1995, Mr Murthwaite also rates an operation with the Force Support Unit when he was a sergeant working on Op Trio - a cross-border venture tackling burglaries.

He added: "I will miss the many friends I have made both in the service and also in the community."

Mr Murthwaite continues working in the police service - in a private capacity with the Metropolitan Police - and is hoping to spend more time with his four children and three grandchildren.

### Obituaries

One of the best-known Essex CID officers of the 1950s and 60s, renowned for his colourful bow ties and his love of skiffle and jazz, has died.

**Gordon Oakley**, 76, of Wickford, leaves two sons, Martin and Robert, and a daughter, Helen. Martin has retired from Essex Police but Helen is still a serving officer.

Mr Oakley's wife Joan died from breast cancer and he had since worked hard raising funds for Action Against Breast Cancer - donations at his funeral went to the charity.

Mr Oakley joined Essex Police in 1949 and, after a year in uniform, remained in the CID for the rest of his 25-year career. He served at Romford, Rainham, Hornchurch, South Ockendon and Grays and also had an interesting spell in the Flying Squad before serving in



• Chief Supt Dave Murthwaite

the Crime Squad and at Wickford and Basildon.

His son Martin said his father had to buy his own Commer van for undercover work, which was fitted out with radio and other equipment, and then had to make it look old and rusty.

There was no CID overtime and loyal detectives would have long working weeks catching villains. Once, Mr Oakley was 'arrested' by colleagues so that his cover was not blown.

He was good at cultivating 'snouts and that and his love of CID work saw him not wanting promotion.

He kept close association with Essex Police colleagues and NARPO and also worked hard for the International Police Association.

The funeral has taken place of ex-Sgt **Kenneth Foreman**, aged 87, of Canvey Island.

Mr Foreman served from 1938 to 1963 at Brentwood, Nevendon, Dovercourt and Canvey Island. Donations at his funeral were for the Essex Police Benevolent Fund.

Former Essex Police sergeant **Alan Woodhouse** has died, aged 70.

Mr Woodhouse, of Benfleet, served between 1956 and 1988 at Harlow and Southend and at Rayleigh Traffic Unit.

The funeral of former Pc **Michael Bright**, 60, of Leigh-on-Sea, is due to take place on Thursday, October 13, in West Chapel at Southend Crematorium at noon. Mr Bright, who served in Southend Borough from 1969 until 2000, leaves a widow, Pauline.

## Long years of study pay off for sergeants

AFTER 13 years or so of academic study, Sgt Jo Hadley has been awarded a PhD from the University of London.

His doctorate marks the culmination of academic study in sociology at Goldsmiths College, which began with an Open University course in 1992.

He is currently on a career break from the Community Safety department and is living in Helsinki, working for the Police College of Finland.

Sgt Hadley, who joined Essex Police in 1985, pursued his studies in his own time, with independent funding, through the use of Essex Police's part-time working



• Sgt Jo Hadley

and career break schemes.

• **PROBATIONER** Training Supervisor Sgt Cathy Calder, from Essex Police Training Centre, has been awarded a BSc (Hons) degree in Policing and Police Studies by the University of Portsmouth.

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But you must make sure you keep your current extension number up to date – VAD is only as accurate as the information it is given.

## What's in a word?

STANWAY MIT Investigating Officer John Wright found a funny reply to an email waiting for him in his inbox one morning.

He had emailed a detective, asking for confirmation as to who had drawn a plan submitted with a statement from a witness.

The reply stated: "I drew it as he was unable to read or write." (!!)



● Police pensioners – both new and old – are encouraged to record their memories for posterity in the newly-refurbished Essex Police Museum



● From left, retired Chief Insp Ray Newman (joined 1972), retired deputy Chief Insp Roger Eason, (served 1965-1995), Essex Chief Constable Roger Baker, former Essex Police Museum curator and retired Pc Fred Feather (served 1969-1998) and retired Det Sgt Michael Haig (joined 1962)

Picture by Becky Latchford

# Taking trips down Memory Lane

THE annual Essex Police Pensioners' Garden Party once again proved popular with former police officers queuing up more than an hour before it started.

Around 300 eventually arrived and packed into the canteen at HQ training centre – as the weather turned out to be bitterly cold.

However they still enjoyed the now-traditional strawberries and cream, plus a feast of other food, and listened to the Essex Police Band.

Garden Party Committee chairman Tony Kavanagh said it was an extremely good turnout and he praised those whose 'excellent assistance' had helped to make the 2005 event – which had been postponed

after the London bombings in July – such a success.

"Everyone seems to have enjoyed themselves and particular compliments were paid to the Cadets and the catering staff," he said.

"A number of new people and several who had not been for some time turned up.

"The garden party is very important to the pensioners and is a chance for us to say thank you for what they have contributed to Essex Police."

IT Training Manager Mr Kavanagh is retiring next June and one of the first things he aims to do is to attend the 2006 garden party.

● The first visitors through the doors of the newly-refurbished Essex Police

Museum had travelled all the way from Eastbourne.

And they were greeted with the rare sight of three men who have all held the post of Essex Chief Constable.

The museum has been refurbished thanks to £43,000 in Lottery funding and a whole host of dignitaries turned out for the official re-opening on September 10.

Chief Constable Roger Baker was joined by former postholders John Burrows and Sir Robert Bunyard. And Deputy Chief Constable Charles Clark was joined by former deputies Peter Simpson and Jim Dickinson while two former Essex Police Authority chairmen attended with current chairman Robert Chambers.

Then the visitors began pouring in and by the end of the day over 200 people had toured the new exhibits. The younger audience were able to get hands-on with the collection and try on a variety of police clothing.

As usual the fingerprinting proved a hit with the children as did the new museum trail where youngsters are given a worksheet of clues to follow.

Museum curator Becky Latchford said: "It was a fantastic day. We are delighted with the amount of publicity that the museum has received and the number of people who came to visit."

● To organise a group visit of adults or children to the museum, contact Becky on 01245 457450. The museum is open every Wednesday, 1-4.30pm.

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## Sport & Leisure



## Bad luck for the captain

ESSEX had 17 competitors among the 278 runners in the PSUK 10-mile road race, held in Bangor, Northern Ireland.

And a number of personal bests were recorded, although there was disappointment for Essex captain Mick Bond, who was forced to pull out before halfway with an achilles injury as he attempted to gain a fourth v45 title.

So Derek Walker was left to lead the team, finishing in 24th with a time of 60mins 7secs.

In 99th overall, Jon Mackenzie (67:48) just missed out on the third m50 award.

But, producing the most

surprising performance of the race and a huge personal best (pb) in 69:18, was Southend development and training officer Jim Ling in 122nd.

Chris Lacey ran 17:14 to lower his pb by more than three minutes for 131st place. Phillip McCulloch (70:36) and Charles Quaey (74:14) completed the leading Essex men.

Running just days before her marriage to fellow Essex officer Dave Wood, the first Essex woman to finish was Rachel Crosby (75:28) in 182nd.

Dan Stoten (78:47) held off the second Essex woman, Lucy Bradley (80:59), who

was just one place away from third in the f40 age group. There was a close race between the next three finishers – Paul Arthey (82:19), Steven King (82:36) and Kat Southall (84:15).

Amanda Pollard (96:26), heading an injury, hampered Lisa Bolton (105:26) and Pauline Bowers (108:19).

The women showed a huge improvement to finish seventh out of 28 teams from across the UK and can now look towards the forthcoming cross-country season with confidence.

The fast, flat course followed the coastline.

# Sport & Leisure

## Gentlemen battle away for a draw

IN the wake of England's Ashes triumph over Australia, the Essex detectives took on Audley End in front of the house on the outskirts of Saffron Walden.

Having won the toss, the Gentlemen of Essex CID elected to field and found it hard going. The opening pair were dogged in their response to some pretty average bowling and poor fielding, with a number of catches being put down. Keith Hill, who normally bats at number 11 for Saffron Walden, made his second-ever century but, on 105, was eventually bowled out by Steve Jones, who went on to achieve respectable figures of 3-24. Saffron Walden made 214-7 by tea. The police response was slow but eventually Jim Couchman got going and, with some good strokeplay, managed 66 runs which contributed to the detectives' response of 148-8 in the allotted time to secure a draw.

Players needed: no experience is necessary

THE ladies' PSUK hockey season has started and Essex Police must start with an away match against Northamptonshire. Over the past few years, Essex Police has been very successful in the PSUK ladies' hockey tournament, winning it and coming second.

But says Tracey Bishop, of Bocking RPU, more players are needed, 'especially a goalkeeper, as ours is injured'.

Experience is beneficial but not necessary. All kit is supplied, apart from boots and sticks.

● The match must be played by October 21 so, if you are interested, hurry and email Tracey Bishop or ring her on ext 63240

## Old 'uns wanted

THE Veterans football team are looking for new recruits to give the squad some strength in depth.

The team, made up of players who are 35 and over, play league football on Saturday afternoons as well as Police Sport UK competitions throughout the year. Training is at 10.30am on Saturday mornings.

● For more information, contact Matthew Clark in the Force Support Unit on ext 53075 or by email.

## Marathon entries

HERE'S a reminder that the 2006 Flora London Marathon is on Sunday, April 23, and that entries close on October 21.

Entry forms are still available at most sports shops.

● Visit [www.london-marathon.co.uk](http://www.london-marathon.co.uk) for more details.

## HQ in a commanding lead

HQ have, fittingly, taken a commanding lead in this year's Croker Cup competition, heading up the table with 38 points after four events.

Second are Braintree Division with 28 points, closely followed by Chelmsford with 27.

Fourth are Rayleigh, with 23, then Colchester with 20, Southend with 19, Harlow with 17 and Basildon with 16.

And bringing up the rear, both

alphabetically and points-wise, are Tendring and Thurrock divisions with nine points apiece.

● The Croker Cup freshwater angling tournament is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, and the Kingfisher Cup is on Tuesday, November 8, both at Coleman's Farm, Witham, draw is at 8am. Register interest with organiser Alan Diver on ext 63307

## Neil's staggering round

A STAGGERING 39 points gave Neil Sinclair, of Harlow CID, the cup for best individual performance in the Croker Cup golf tournament last month.

Sadly, his score could not rescue the team title for Harlow as HQ took the overall honours.

All ten divisions participated in the tournament at Burnham on Crouch Golf Club. Results were: 1 HQ; 2 Harlow; 3 Colchester; 4 Chelmsford; 5 Basildon; 6 Braintree; 7 Tendring; 8 Thurrock; 9 Southend; 10 Rayleigh.



● Essex Police athletes show off their medal haul from the National Athletics Championship last month

# Medal haul from national athletics

**ATHLETES across the force returned to Essex with their biggest medal haul from the National Athletics Championship – bringing home 14 in all.**

Tendring's Kev Hughes, Chelmsford's Mick Bond and Andrea Smith, Harlow's Kat Southall and Alex Spur, Southend's Lisa Bolton and Colchester's Courtney Powell, Steve King, Chris Lacey, Julie Bolingbroke, Andy Young, Trevor Clark and Derek Walker were joined by an HQ team comprising Will Cubbin, Natalie Benjamin and Shirley Quinn in Derby for the National Track and Field Championship.

On the track, Hughes made it through to the finals of the 200 and 400m finals while Young finished fourth in a 200m heat.

Still a little rusty, Walker finished midway in the pack during the final of the 800m – clocking a time of 2m 14s.

Essex's new hope for the road and cross country season, Will Cubbin,

looked confident in both the men's 1,500 and 5,000m, finishing in a time of 18m 49s in the latter.

In the veterans' 5km run, Bond and Lacey took on the course in windy conditions, with Bond finishing just over three minutes ahead of his colleague in a time of 17m 19s.

King, who never fails to provide, secured second place in the final of the 3km walk while the men's 4x400m relay saw the force gain its first-ever bronze medal in the competition thanks to Walker, Lacey, Cubbin and Hughes.

The women's success was spearheaded by Southall who claimed silver in the 200m, with Bolton three places behind in the final. Benjamin produced a fine run in the 100m.

The women then won a bronze themselves in the 4x100m, finishing behind the Metropolitan Police and West Midlands.

Bolton and Southall then flew the flag for Essex in the women's high jump, with the Harlow girl claiming silver after leaping 1m 45cm.

Bolingbroke and Smith encouraged each other in their long jump campaigns while last year's field star, Shirley Quinn, repeated her show again.

Competing in the shot putt and discus, where she just missed out on a medal, Quinn won bronze in the hammer and javelin. Bolingbroke finished fourth.

Not to be outdone, the men performed gallantly with Cowell making the cut for the long jump final.

Selected after his consistency at the Croker Cup, Spur surprised the team captain and himself when he took bronze in the triple jump before taking on the field in the shot, discus, javelin and hammer – an event he has never competed in before, yet which earned him fourth spot.

Clark, who last threw a javelin for Essex two years ago in Edinburgh, showed spectators that he is one for the occasion, when he added to the Essex medal haul by grabbing bronze.

Force co-ordinator, Derek Walker, said: "Next year's divisional championship will be slightly different, with some new events to greet our newly-laid track. We can build on this year's success and so will be looking to identify the talent within the force and offer the chance to potential national athletes."

● Anyone interested in running in any of these events should contact either Derek Walker or Mick Bond.

## West End theatre trips are a police lottery bonus

BOCKING Road Policing Unit Pc Andrew Swan won the top £3,000 in the September draw of the Essex Police lottery.

Pc Tim Atkins, of Stansted Airport, won the £1,000 prize and Pc John Rout, of Basildon TAC Team received the £500 third prize.

Winners of £100 prizes were:

Pc Jacqueline Sears, Tilbury; Sgt Roy Tucker, Brentwood; Sgt Simon Cottis, Southend; Brian Cole, Chelmsford; Wendy McAnally, Grays; Chief Insp Terry Haines, HQ Crime; and Pc Tracey

Bishop, Bocking RPU.

The £50 prizewinners were: Insp Perry Funnell, FIR; Anthony Tinson, HQ Crime, cold case review unit; Pc Tina Royles, Brentwood; Deborah Newberry, Harlow; Pc Gary Shadbolt, Colchester; Sgt Gary Lane, Southend; Pc Ian Rowe, Colchester; and Mick Barry, FIR.

Winners of 20 double tickets for West End hit show Blood Brothers were: Kathryn Bethell, FIR; Det Con Amanda Puttnam, Harlow CAIU; Det Sgt Andrew Smith, Harwich; Pc Drusilla Willcock, FIR; Pc Neil Course, Stansted

Airport; PCSO Peter Manning, South Ockendon; Verna Mackie, Mistley; Det Sgt Paul Lawson, HQ Crime; John Croot, Braintree; Pc Trevor Edhouse, Sandon Dog Section; Det Con Stephen Jarvis, Southend; Lynn Crockett, FIR; David Webb, NICS, seconded staff; Sgt Richard Raven, Basildon; Pc Clare Martinez, Professional Standards; Pc Martin Oakley, Rayleigh MIT; Pc Sue Powl, Essex Police Training Centre; Det Supt Colin Steele, Stanway MIT; Tony Belford, Rayleigh; and Alister Bevan, HQ Transport Services.

## Honours in ladies' golf proves a first for county

THANKS to the efforts of Toni Hodge and Essex Police Golf Society secretary Nigel Ginn, the first Ladies' National Golf competition was held at short notice at the Five Lakes complex at the end of August.

The morning round was a medal and the best scratch score decided the champion. A handicap competition was also played and the afternoon round was a stableford competition. Among the visitors was PSUK secretary Neil Braithwaite.

The stableford was won by Sue Robbins, from Essex HQ, with 37 points, and runner up was Angela Branthwaite, from the Metropolitan Police.

The presentation dinner was attended by Chief Constable Roger Baker, Deputy Chief Constable Charles Clark, Win Bernard, Chelmsford Divisional Commander and PSUK chairman Andrew Cameron, who is the Chief Constable of Central Scotland Police.

Unknown to Mr Clark, the trophy for the morning handicap competition had been named the Charles Clark Cup in tribute to his 37 years of dedication to sport.

Very fittingly, the first winner was Hodge, of Chelmsford Division, with a net 72. Runner-up was Kim Robertson from Scotland.

The main competition trophy was donated by Mr Cameron and named the Cameron Cup. Again fittingly, it was won by Alison Gemmill, from Scotland, who plays off a 1 handicap, with a gross 80. Hodge was runner up.

Nigel Ginn, secretary of Essex Police Golf Society, said: "Well done to Toni Hodge and Sue Robbins for their success. Toni shot +2 on the back nine holes to achieve this and Sue had said beforehand that she didn't think she was good enough to enter – how wrong she was."

"I would also like to thank Dick Argles, of HQ Criminal Justice Department, for his help over the two days helping to make the event a success for Essex."

● Essex has already offered to host next year's event.

## Challenge is set for all tough guys

TOUGH Guy 2006 – billed as the 'safest most dangerous sport in the world' – takes place at the Mr Mouse Farm for Unfortunates, near Wolverhampton on Sunday, January 29, 2006.

The event is an eight-mile run/crawl, through a muddy, demanding cross county, including a two-mile assault course, known as the 'killing fields'.

● Application forms from Allan Barley on ext 35419 or visit [www.toughguy.co.uk](http://www.toughguy.co.uk)

## Coffee, cakes and a walk boost charity

POLICE officers and staff supported Macmillan Coffee Mornings at HQ last month.

At Essex Police Training Centre, £274.35 was raised through the sale of cakes, donated by caterers Sodexo, donated gifts, a raffle and Macmillan merchandise.

Meanwhile, a similar event at HQ Crime Division raised £194.46, with donations of cakes and raffle prizes.

Phoenix/PNC Admin at the Force Information Room raised £115 – which was boosted to £160 by the £45 collected by the Contact Management Team.

And £57.39 was raised through quiz sheet sales and cakes, again donated by Sodexo, at HQ canteen.

A coffee and cakes morning held at Southend Police Station during Breast Cancer Awareness week raised £150 for the Breakthrough Breast Cancer charity.

A similar morning, with a raffle, at Rayleigh raised £320. Both sums went towards the total of over £1,500 raised by Rayleigh MIT Investigating Officer Wendy Napper in the Breakthrough Breast Cancer 60km charity walk in London last month.

Pc Fiona Clements, of Laindon, also took part in the charity walk, raising £3,365 – she and her friend Caroline Hillier, with whom she walked, have already signed up for next year.

## Party on at the airport

STANSTED'S E shift will stage their Annual Airport Party at Bishop's Stortford Football Club.

The event has raised £1,000 for charity in the past, this year it's Cancer Research.

The party, at the club just off J8 of the M11 on Friday, October 21, is open to all.

Tickets always sell quickly so get yours now at £5 each from any member of the E shift at Stansted.

## Ian treads the boards

SENIOR Systems Technician Ian Rayner, from Financial Services, did not just stand by and watch as terrible events unfolded in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina last month in southern USA.

He took part in a 24-hour sponsored treadmill event at Fitness First in Colchester – walking just over 12km in two hours in his pyjamas – and raised £255.

## In the dumps

ONE lorry driver had plenty to loo-se when the load came off the back of his vehicle on the A130.

The unlucky trucker was left red-faced when three portable toilets fell from his lorry. Reports that there was 'a blockage in lane one' between the A127 and Rettendon didn't bear thinking about.

# Reshuffle is 'good for business'

by Ben Pennington

HOME Office plans to review the structure of police forces in the UK are an opportunity to examine 'how we can do business better', says Chief Constable Roger Baker.

Home Secretary Charles Clark has asked that all forces come up with proposals for the creation of 'strategic forces' by Christmas, with a timescale of two years for implementation.

His call follows a review by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary, which concluded that the present arrangement of 43 forces was no longer 'fit for purpose'.

The report says some forces will need to merge to attain

the capacity and capability required to tackle cross-border criminality.

Although there are no stated plans for Essex, the proposed minimum strength for a force is 4,000 officers – 800 more than we have.

However, Mr Baker has been quick to point out that any suggested change to the force should only be in the interests of the public.

Speaking after the Home Secretary's announcement, Mr Baker said: "There is no specific plan directing that Essex Police service will be merged. We are simply look-

ing at how we can do business better, and give the best possible service to the public.

"Amalgamating with other forces is always a possibility. However, any proposal by Essex Police will emphasise the need to deliver an improved service to our public, to whom we are accountable."

The Home Office review coincides with local consultation by the force and Essex Police Authority on the way the organisation is to be structured.

That review will look at how to increase police officers on front-line duties by March 2006 using existing resources.

Options outlined include keeping the current structure of nine territorial divisions, or merging those to create four, five or six divisions.

Essex Police Authority chairman Robert Chambers said: "This consultation process will give us vital feedback from the public.

"We will work together with communities to give the public what they want – an increased presence of officers on the street and communities feeling reassured."

● The consultation document can be viewed at on the Essex Police Authority website, [www.essex.police.uk/authority](http://www.essex.police.uk/authority)

## Show award proves drugs aren't smart

THE 2 Smart 4 Drugs education project has won an award at the Mid Essex Business Awards.

Essex Police, together with co-sponsor Essex FM, entered the public community category in the awards, held at Chelmsford's Marconi Club last month.

The 2 Smart 4 Drugs programme is a pop concert-type roadshow with dancers, singers, theatre, sport and comedy aimed at 11 to 13-year-old schoolchildren.

This year over 16,000 children in Essex got the message that drink and drugs are dangerous.

The show's appeal for school kids is that it does not preach but just gives the facts in an entertaining and thought-provoking way, encouraging them to take part in quizzes and games to win prizes.

Supported by the website [www.2smart.co.uk](http://www.2smart.co.uk) funding for the project is shared between Essex Police, Essex FM and Southend, Thurrock and other local drug action teams.

Pc Victoria Wilson, from Community Safety, said: "The competition was strong and I feel very proud that we have won. There is a big team involved in producing the roadshows plus support from the police officers who work with the schools to provide additional support both before and after the shows."

2 Smart 4 Drugs now goes on to the 'winner of winners' awards in November 2005.

● A second success for Essex Police sees its Crack Under Pressure campaign, to reduce the use of class A drugs and stop their distribution, becoming a finalist in the Communicator of the Year Business Awards.

The winners will be announced next month.

## The ride of their lives

NEARLY 150 children with physical and learning difficulties were treated to the ride of their lives at the annual 4x4 Fun Day.

The event, held at Marsh Farm Country Park in South Woodham Ferrers, is run each year by Essex Police officers and staff with the support of other emergency services and military personnel.

Around 140 children aged five to 16 were taken round an off-road track in 4x4 trucks loaned for the day by manufacturers.

The force's helicopter, dog units and Marine Section were also in attendance, along with officers from Essex Fire and Rescue Service.

## The police take singers to church

ESSEX Police Choir perform with Clare Singers at St Peter's Church, Prittlewell, on Saturday, November 12, from 7.30pm. Tickets from Glyn Jones on 01702 333520.

# 'Tour of duty' does the trick

by Nishan Wijeratne

**A SCHOOLBOY who became wary of police after his father died in tragic circumstances now wants to join up after spending time with Essex officers.**

Jim Miller was on a family holiday in the Isle of Wight in July 2001 when his father Ian, 39, died searching for their pet dog Jake.

Ian slipped and fell 230ft down a cliff after Jake went missing during the family trip to Freshwater.

He was airlifted to hospital, but died soon after.

This year, Jim's class at Elmwood Primary School in South Woodham Ferrers went on a one-week field trip to Freshwater but the 11-year-old refused to go as he did not want relive his bad memories.

Following his father's death and subsequent inquest, Jim had become wary of the police.

As a result, he wanted to address this and so he wrote to Essex Police asking whether he could spend the week with the force instead.

The Human Resources Business Team arranged a three-day visit which incorporated some time with the Marine Unit, based at Burnham on Crouch, and the Force Support Unit (FSU).

Human Resources Manager Sue Adkins said she had been moved by Jim's story and was only too delighted to help out.

"The officers in Burnham gave Jim a really great day out, as he went out on patrol with them," said Ms Adkins.

"And the following day he spent some time with our firearms officers who, regardless of their tough, professional image, displayed a softer side by spoiling Jim when he visited.

"They showed him round the cars and told him what kind of work they get up to.

"Jim's final day was spent in the Force Information Room where he listened to some of the calls which came in before having a tour around HQ with Roger Barkway and his team from reception."

Jim teamed up with his classmates again the following week and showed off



● Pc Nick Daws, of the Force Support Unit, shows Jim Miller around

Picture by Nishan Wijeratne

the photos and souvenirs he had collected.

He said: "They were all really jealous." After his exciting visit, Jim now hopes to become a police officer when he is older.

He added: "I would like to thank everyone who met me, especially the officer in FSU who took the pictures."

Before spending time with Essex Police, Jim had been falling behind with his schoolwork but afterwards he got a series of fives in his Key Stage 2

Standard Assessment Tests.

And he is due to have a series of trials at West Ham United Football Club later this month.

Jim's mum Cathy said: "I was pleased with Jim's actions as I did not want him growing up and having a dislike for the police. This stint with Essex Police really turned him around."

Jim left the force with a bundle of souvenirs from each of the sections he visited. Only seven years to go now until he joins up!

