

The Law



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July 2007

Operation to disrupt travelling crooks sees offences drop countywide

DENYING VILLAINS USE OF OUR ROADS

A WEEK-long operation to counter the activities of itinerant criminals, distraction burglars and rogue traders has been pronounced a success.

by Donna Veasey

Our job is to do all we can to target them and, if there is insufficient evidence to arrest them, then we will disrupt them."

With support from fellow officers and partner agencies, acting Insp Justin Smith, of the ANPR intercept team, felt progress was made.

He said: "We really took the battle back to the criminals with this operation.

"We have been targeting distraction burglars and rogue traders who prey on the elderly and vulnerable but, with more than 60 police officers and partners taking part, we were pretty much able to deal with everything that was thrown at us."

He explained that road-users guilty of committing minor offences were statistically more likely to be responsible for more serious criminal behaviour.

Acting Insp Smith added that, on average, only three per cent of vehicles triggered ANPR technology, of which 80 per cent were already known to police.

Essex Police and partners from Trading Standards and Scambusters, HM Customs and Department of Work and Pensions targeted such people for five days last month across the county.

Operating in a different area of Essex each day, officers used Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) and other technology to identify suspect vehicles and occupants.

Ds Richard Burgess, of the Distraction Burglary Unit, who led the operation said: "The operation went very well and we gathered a vast array of useful intelligence over the week.

"Our robust policing also had the effect of reducing the number of distraction burglaries committed across the county to three for duration of the operation.

"It was also an example of excellent teamwork between all the agencies and we will be keeping the momentum going."

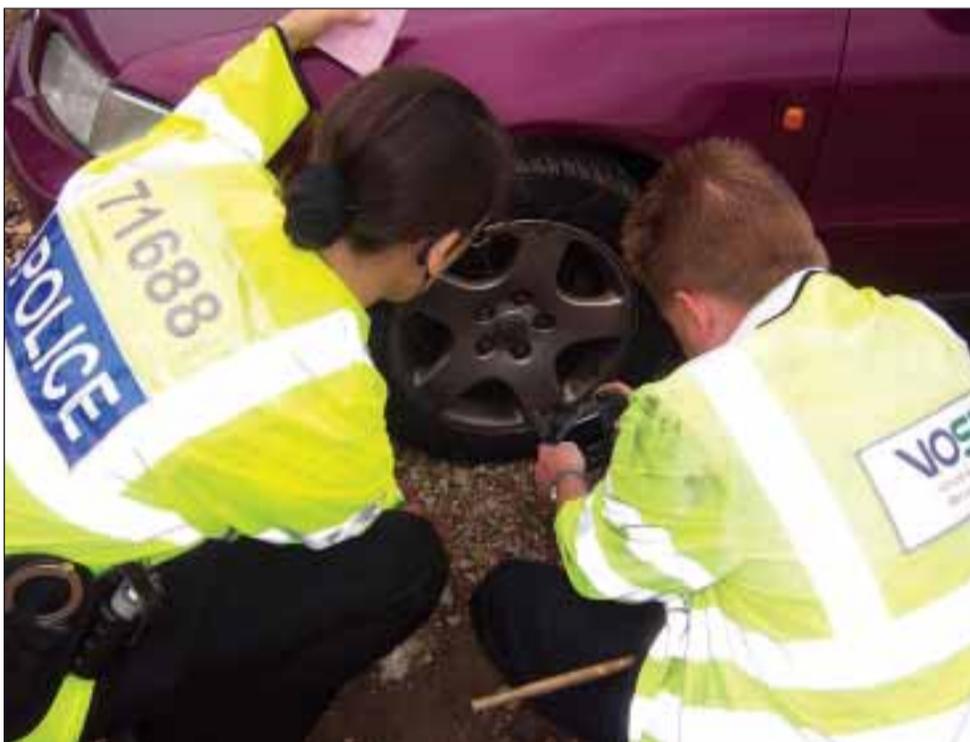
In total, Essex Police made 31 arrests for various offences, including traffic offences, theft, drink-driving and drugs possession.

Officers also seized 61 cars, stopped 240 vehicles and issued 76 tickets for offences including using a mobile phone while driving, not wearing a seatbelt and having no insurance.

These criminals prey upon vulnerable and/or elderly victims both locally and across the country.

And the impact of their actions on the victim can far outweigh any financial loss, with dramatic effects on quality of life and sometimes even bringing about premature death.

Chief Supt Mick Thwaites, Divisional Commander of Mobile Support, said: "These criminals are despicable – they target the most vulnerable people in society.



● Left, Pc Claire Hicks, of Western Professional Development Unit, watches as a VOSA (Vehicle and Operator Services Agency) official checks the tread of a car tyre. The tyre had been while driven flat and then pumped up again, damaging the tyre wall. Pc Dennis Logie, of the ANPR intercept team, said the tyre had the potential to burst at high speed and cause fatalities and the driver had only got a provisional licence

Picture by Denise Harvey



● Left, a woman walks forlornly away with her shopping bags and a child's cycle after her car was seized during the Operation Malm checks at Thurrock services at the junction of the M25 and A13. Police and DVLA officials found irregularities with her driving licence and insurance cover

● Above, police officers, Customs officials and investigators from the local authority examine boxes of electric goods found in a van being driven to Tilbury Docks. The driver was arrested on suspicion of possessing stolen goods and released on police bail until July 21

Pictures by Bill Stock



Overtime is not 'free time'

DURING the past month there have been a number of issues regarding overtime and the payment thereof.

The Secretary of State determines the circumstances and manner in which a member of a police force shall be compensated in respect of time for which they remain on duty after their tour of duty ends.

Your 'tour of duty' – in relation to a member of a police force for whom variable shift arrangements are in operation – literally means your rostered shift.

Firstly, can I state that if you are required to work overtime, you are categorically entitled to payment for that time*.

There is no such thing in Police Regulations as voluntary overtime, and you cannot be forced to take time off in compensation for time worked. * No account shall be taken of any period of less than 30 minutes of unforeseeable overtime worked on each of the first four occasions each week.

Income Tax-Flat Rate Expense Allowance

The Federation has negotiated with and secured HM Revenue and Customs' agreement that the flat-rate Income Tax expense allowance will be increased from the rate of £55 to £110, with effect from April 6, 2007.

Members' tax codes will be amended and should come into effect by the end of this month. Members should not contact their Tax Office themselves unless they have not received an amended tax code by the time they receive their

August payslip. Essex Police Payroll department will now be advising HM Revenue and Customs regarding this allowance on your behalf every year.

Part-time officers and pensionable pay

From July 1, 2007, a part-time constable or sergeant's additional hours will automatically be pensionable.

'Additional hours' are defined as the hours paid at plain time that a part-time officer works over and above their determined hours and up to 40 hours in a relevant week.

This, therefore, does not include any hours worked at enhanced rate or those taken as time off in lieu.

This means that:

- pension contributions will be payable on additional hours at 11 per cent for the 'old' pension scheme and 9.5 per cent for the 'new'
- such hours will count as pensionable service.

Buy-back of additional service

Changes will be back-dated to July 1, 2000.

Serving and former affected officers can choose whether they wish to make such previous additional service pensionable, and also exactly how much previous service they wish to buy back.

In order to do so, officers will need to pay the relevant pension contributions in respect of the period of pensionable service being brought back.

Please note that officers will only have one opportunity to make additional service pensionable.

Essex Police Authority will be informing all affected serving officers of the new arrangements, retrospective changes and the options available to them.

Issues surrounding police pay will not go away

THE issues around police pay are likely to figure predominantly over the next few months due to the fact that it is under unprecedented attack by the Government.

In 1979 we received a substantial pay award via the Edmund Davies Report.

This also linked our future pay rises to the future pay rises of all workers.

In effect, if the average pay packet in the UK went up by three per cent, we got three per cent.

In 1992, under the Sheehy Report, this changed and our pay was linked to the average for non-manual private-sector workers – in effect much the same.

The Government now wants to break these formulas and introduce a new one.

This has been introduced via the Booth Report.

At first glance you may think that this is not a significant change.

Well, I can assure you that it is. Booth is suggesting that our pay is linked to a 'public sector-facing index'.

This means that we would get an average of the pay rises awarded to certain public-sector groups whose rises are dictated by the Treasury.

Booth goes much further than this

suggesting our annual pay award should not be given to all of us but put into a 'pot', using some for the pay scales, the other to fund other aspects of pay, eg, 'an on-call allowance'.

Anything taken out of the 'pot' – apart from money spent on the pay scales – will be at the expense of our annual salary.

And, don't forget, our annual salary is pensionable, the allowances are not, which will have a major impact on our future.

The Federation is preparing its case and believes that to accept Booth in this format would be a disaster for policing.

It would be catastrophic regarding the retention of experienced officers and even more catastrophic on future police recruitment.

If the Government's long-term plan is to reduce police officer numbers, it is certainly going about it the right way.

We are in for a long hard fight and will eventually need visible signs of support from you, our officers.

Who knows what new Prime Minister Gordon Brown's feelings are on these issues but I am sure the time will come when we will need your support to show him ours.

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INSURANCE

The Rev Bernard keeps the faith with our force

EVERY Neighbourhood Policing district station in the county could have a chaplain following the appointment of a Force Chaplaincy Co-ordinator.

Chief Constable Roger Baker is supportive of the Chaplaincy scheme, which enables any officer or member of police staff to seek comfort, regardless of their faith or the fact that they may express no faith at all.

The Rev Bernard Arnold says that he will also assist in finding representatives from other faiths to talk to people if they prefer not to see a Christian chaplain.

Mr Baker said: "For officers and staff to be able to talk things over with a chaplain can prove to be of great benefit – there may be issues which affect them at work but which they don't want to discuss with colleagues.

"Chaplains are simply there to offer friendship, support and compassion – and will only talk about their faith if required."

Mr Arnold first got involved with Essex Police when his experience of prison chaplaincy work brought him into police chaplaincy.

He said: "In Colchester I was invited to minister to convicted prisoners who were in police cells because the prisons at Chelmsford and elsewhere were full.



● The Rev Bernard Arnold is the new Force Chaplaincy Co-ordinator

Picture by Rob Coley

"When Operation Watchdog was over, I was invited to be chaplain to the station.

"This was something relatively new and it was not easy to start with because those working at the station did not understand what I was about. It took time to create trust and friendship and for anything to happen.

"It seemed odd to have a chaplain wandering around a station, particularly for those who had little or no faith and especially as it was a working environment – for, after all, church is church and work is work.

"I now have a new job as Co-ordinating Chaplain for

the whole of Essex, appointed by the Chief Constable.

"My job is to support existing chaplains, arrange training and induction and also seek and appoint new chaplains for each station in Essex where no chaplain is presently situated.

"This is a challenging role but one which, I feel, has great value to the force."

● To find your nearest Essex Police chaplain, contact the Rev Bernard Arnold on 01245 499028 or email revbernard@hotmail.com or visit the Chaplaincy intranet site – on the information menu on the intranet home page

Mentors' hard work bears fruit

HALF a dozen police staff members have seen seven months of hard work come to fruition.

They attended a graduation ceremony held by Anglia Ruskin University, after agreeing to mentor a student for seven months, for a minimum of 12 hours.

When the students they mentored graduated from the programme, the mentors received a certificate of participation.

Other public sector bodies, including the Crown Prosecution Service, the Courts Service and local councils, were involved in mentoring over 70 second-year degree students.

Over the seven months, mentors covered topics including work shadowing, CV writing and how to fill in application forms.

The scheme aims to help students with skills required to progress in the working world once they leave their academic lives.

Clare Chandler, Project Finance Manager in Corporate Development, who mentored for the first time, said: "This would have benefited some of my colleagues at university to have had this opportunity.

"I would definitely encourage other people to get involved. It was terrific."

Mrs Chandler said she developed a much better appreciation for what 19-year-olds like and improved her own skills in tuition and coaching, which she will be able to apply to her own job.

Home help

ESSEX Police is working with a housing association to offer public sector staff the opportunity to get their foot on the property ladder.

Moat Homes offers the HomeBuy scheme to keyworkers in Essex, Sussex and Kent.

The programme is designed to help people who wish to buy or rent but who have problems finding the money.

Most people who apply for HomeBuy are first-time buyers. However, assistance can also be given to current homeowners where there is overcrowding or a relationship breakdown.

Keyworker HomeBuy is restricted to certain workers in the public sector.

• Visit www.homebuy.co.uk or call Moat on 07002 662846 for more information

La Plata move

BRENTWOOD MIT has moved to Rayleigh Police Station whilst structural repairs are carried out to La Plata House.

The enquiry team is now on exts 36734 and 36732; the Major Investigation Room is on exts 35129 and 35833; and fax is ext 36710. The external number remains 01277 262220.

Financial Investigations has also moved from La Plata House. To contact the department during office hours call ext 75222 or 01277 266876.

The emergency out-of-office hours contact is via FIB.

Divisional commander is outward-bound for a day

DIVISIONAL Commander Simon Coxall joined youngsters seeking a fresh start through the Prince's Trust.

The 15-strong group of young people, aged between 16 and 25, from Thurrock in South-Western Division, were taking part in a 12-week team programme organised by the trust, supported by Essex Police and

Thurrock Borough Council. They spent time at a Scout camp near East Grinstead, Sussex, taking part in a range of outdoor activities and Chief Supt Simon Coxall visited the camp for a day to join their activities.

Participants in the Prince's Trust scheme may be unemployed, leaving care, young offenders, living in shel-

tered accommodation or lone parents.

They took part in a series of modules including a work placement, community project, the residential activity week and 'next steps' plans.

Chief Supt Coxall said: "It's very easy these days to label young people as a problem. In truth they are our future.

"The Prince's Trust seizes the opportunity that young people present rather than dwelling on problems that, in many cases, simply don't exist.

"Building confidence and self-respect is key to their work and the division is very proud to support and be associated with their fine efforts."

National recognition for a Special team

A TEAM of Special officers from Maldon have been heralded at a national award ceremony.

Acting SChief Insp Adam Pipe, acting SInsp Matt Andrews, SSgt Kevin Mothersill and acting SSgt Tom Miles were responsible for reducing anti-social behaviour and combating drug use.

And their work was recognised at the 15th Special Constables and Police Support Volunteers Awards last month, which celebrate the vital contribution that Specials and support staff volunteers make to their local communities.

Competing against teams from across the country the team were runners up in the prestigious Ferrers Trophy for showing a high level of commitment to policing and helping to ensure that the Maldon district is a safer place in which to live. Police Minister Tony McNulty said: "The Special Constabulary and police support volunteers play a vital role in supporting regular police colleagues, providing reassurance to communities and helping to solve specific policing issues."

Acting SChief Insp Adam Pipe said he was 'extremely honoured' to receive the award. "I like to believe that we make a real positive contribution to Neighbourhood Policing each and every time we perform a duty.

"The support that the team receives from our regular and PCSO colleagues is immense and has ultimately played a massive role in helping develop the team," he said.

Maldon District Commander Chief Insp Craig Robertson added: "The dedication and professionalism shown by my officers is quite exceptional and they truly deserve their award."



• Chief Officer George Cook gets breakfast for award winners acting SSgt Tom Miles, acting SInsp Matt Andrews, acting SChief Insp Adam Pipe and SSgt Kevin Mothersill

Force is keeping our county safe from harm

POLICING across the county has been stepped up in the wake of last month's terrorist strikes in London and Glasgow.

Essex Police was on alert as the national threat level was increased to critical.

For the first time since the 2005 attacks in the capital, the force widened the area covered by Section 44 of the Terrorism Act to cover the whole county, in a bid to deter and disrupt criminal activity.

Highly-visible patrols of armed and unarmed officers were increased throughout Essex to provide reassurance for residents and holidaymakers, with security at Stansted Airport tightened even further.

by Nishan Wijeratne

Despite no specific threat to Essex, Assistant Chief Constable Peter Lowton spoke live on BBC radio and local television to offer reassurance.

"We reviewed our plans and introduced enhanced levels of policing and security at all the iconic sites in the county," said ACC Lowton, who is responsible for Protective Services.

"We're here to protect the public and show our response to events elsewhere in the UK.

"We were conscious right from the start that people may have been apprehensive about the situation and we took appropriate measures, while working closely with the Metropolitan Police, Stansted Airport Ltd and other partner agencies."

Section 44 powers provide the police

service with the ability to carry out routine stop and searches anywhere on any individual or vehicle in connection with the fight against terrorism.

ACC Lowton added: "This is an essential tactic which helps us create an environment hostile to the terrorists and safe for our communities.

"We're grateful for the public of Essex for their continuing support and assistance. As our eyes and ears, they have an essential role to play being vigilant."

Chief Officers extended this gratitude to the entire workforce of Essex Police, thanking them for their commitment and dedication in response to the attacks.

The Essex Independent Advisory Group worked closely with the operation and supported the force objective in providing a secure and safe environment for all.

Chief calls for action on youth strategies

CHIEF Constable Roger Baker is to open this year's ACPO Youth Justice Conference.

Mr Baker is chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers' (ACPO) Youth Issues Group and has a clear mandate for this year's event.

He said: "ACPO is going to elevate the subject of youth policing to the highest level of debate and put young people's issues on the 'to do' list for every day business.

"There has been enough deliberation - now is the time to put strategies into action."

The conference, recognised nationally as the major event on youth crime, will be held in Bath on October 3 and 4.

The aim is to share best practice between the police service and its partners and develop practical toolkits for people to take away and implement at ground level. This year's theme is *Every Young Person Matters - Time*

To Make A Difference and is set to challenge the existing structure and purpose of welfare and crime prevention groups for young people, promoting instead the formation of a streamlined, consolidated centre for knowledge and a strident plan of action for youth workers at both local and national level.

As well as middle and senior-ranking officers involved in youth crime, youth offending teams, the

heads of public protection units and local authority directors are expected to attend.

Issues set to be discussed include gang culture, modern parenting and restorative justice and the conference will examine new methods of youth crime prevention, Neighbourhood Policing and how to improve interactions with victims and witnesses of crimes, as well as offenders.

Expenses claims to be put in promptly

IT is time to search your bottom drawer for those old receipts and find your mileage book and put in your expenses, otherwise you could end up not having them paid.

From Wednesday, August 1, the force will only process claims for travel, subsistence, temporary duty allowance, overtime and weekend or public holiday enhancement that are not more than two months old.

Any claim dating back more than two months will be rejected unless there are extenuating circumstances, agreed at command team level.

So, at the end of August you can submit claims for July and August, to be paid in your September salary.

Anything dated June will be rejected, so make sure that you submit all your dusty old receipts and back-dated claims now.

The new policy came into being at the end of June and was agreed to allow the force to ensure that local budgets are up to date and reflect all outstanding claims.

Previously, some claims were submitted which were almost a year old.

This obviously means that staff, who process more than 5,000 'gold' expenses claim forms a month, have to check rates of pay and allowances applicable at the time of the claim - this is time-consuming and can delay payment.

The new policy will also benefit staff by ensuring they are paid overtime and expenses on the next available payroll run, thus minimising any financial hardship.

With more than £10million claimed by police officers and staff in overtime and temporary duty allowance and more than £1million in travel and subsistence last year, these new rules will help reduce the risk of error and duplication of claims and ensure a more even monthly flow of claims.

Brochure's e-delay

THE launch of Essex Police College's (EPC) new course e-brochure has been delayed by technical difficulties.

The content has been fully prepared and approved so, until it can be placed online, the course dates pages are available to view via a link at the top lefthand side of the EPC home page.



HAVE YOUR SAY: Write to Heather Turner, Law Letters, Publication Unit, Police HQ, PO Box 2, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6DA or via email to heather.turner@essex.pnn.police.uk
 Letters and emails must be no longer than 300 words and must include your 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.

Renewal of AXA PPP insurance scheme

AXA PPP's renewal documents are being issued to members of the Federation's voluntary health insurance group scheme indicating premiums for year from July 1, 2007.

The claims on the group scheme continue to rise which directly affects the premiums, which is what is causing this year's increase of 7.5 per cent.

During the year we have been pleased to see an increasing number of enquiries from members interested in healthcare policies and would like to thank you for your continued support. I hope members feel they are receiving the help and advice they require.

Not everyone who makes contact with us is moving on to the Federation's voluntary scheme because their individual requirements mean they would be better served either on an alternative AXA PPP policy or a scheme from an alternative insurer.

Should anyone already on the scheme wish to review their policy and consider a range of options or want to know what is available from alternative insurers, they are welcome to contact us.

There are options available to members to transfer without the need to redeclare medical history and low-cost options covering or excluding conditions with which the NHS should be able to deal quickly.

We even have access to a policy which encourages healthy living by offering free gym membership and rewards for healthy lifestyles. If anyone wants to talk to us and ask us anything about an existing policy or any alternatives we are happy to hear from them on 01892 891900.

Guy Jones
 Managing director
 Berwick Devoil Healthcare

Thanks for all your tremendous support

AS the chairman of Crimestoppers, I would like to thank all members of Essex Police for the tremendous support given to Crimestoppers

Crimestoppers will celebrate 20 years of close working partnership with the police in Essex next year.

In recognition, I would like to highlight the unique service which the charity offers to the public in helping to solve crime, thus removing a major obstacle which the community has developed – the 'What will happen if ...' syndrome.

By offering a dedicated telephone service 24/7, on 0800 555 111, the public has the confidence in knowing the caller's identity remains anonymous.

Anonymity is the important factor in providing the answer to the 'What will happen if ...' question.

At Crimestoppers we do not want to know who you are, only what you know.

How many times have you heard the statement 'If only I had...?'

A number of people in the community are close to a crime or a criminal but in fear of retribution for a variety of reasons.

Crimestoppers can provide that important link for these people, although any member of the public can use the service.

In 2006/07, calls about crime in Essex received by Crimestoppers increased by 18 per cent – 1,264 calls – with a majority related to drug offences.

The total number of arrests made was 66 and, significantly, 42 per cent of all arrests in the Eastern Region were made through information supplied to Crimestoppers.

This would not be possible without the close co-operation of the police and, in Essex, the co-operation is second to none.

In promoting the logo and unique telephone number in appeals and campaigns – displaying material throughout Essex – the police service and, in particular, its officers have demonstrated commitment

to encourage the working of Crimestoppers.

Why not visit www.crimestoppers-uk.org and look at the Most Wanted pages and the links provided to facilitate the promotion of the fight against crime and the criminal?

During the past year in Essex, Crimestoppers has been active in several campaigns – including GameOver4Knives and Operation Cougar – at the V-festival and in many other local initiatives at the request of Essex officers.

All Essex Police recruits see a Crimestoppers presentation.

If you need assistance with a local crime problem or campaign, remember Crimestoppers – the only charity helping the police to solve crime.

Crime Reduction Officers will help both police officers and staff in directing the enquiry to Crimestoppers.

Tim Scotchmer
 Chairman
 Essex Crimestoppers Board

'New pledge' is simply what we did 30 years ago

REGARDING the story 'We will deal with today's crime today' in the May issue of *The Law*.

The force is congratulating itself on attending non-urgent crimes within six hours.

When I was patrolling on both Area and Traffic cars in the 1970s and 1980s in Thurrock, all reported crimes were dealt with immediately.

A call came into the station reporting a crime and an officer was dispatched to deal with it.

And if you hadn't dealt with it by the end of your shift your skipper wanted to know why.

It should be noted by current supervising officers that the rule of the day then was, and I assume still applies today, that the longer it takes an officer to attend a crime, the more chance the perpetrator has of getting away.

Paul Collinson
 Watton
 Norfolk

Editor's note: Things were vastly different 30 years ago. In the mid-1970s, the force employed around 3,500 officers and police staff. Today, that figure is more than 6,000.

However, the number and variety of crimes dealt with have risen.

In 1974, 45,867 crimes were reported to the force.

The 2006/07 year saw 127,163 recorded offences – a drop of 5,215 from the previous year.

We received around 240,000 emergency and 420,000 non-emergency calls to our Force Information Room in 2006/07.

With people encouraged to report anti-social behaviour and the advent of mobile phones, things have changed.

Ex-ACC was best manager of men in 30 years' service

I FIRST came across Roger Richardson in 1973 when he telephoned me at Eynsham Hall in Oxfordshire, where I was a Sergeant Instructor, and asked me if I would be interested in joining him on the Regional Crime Squad (RCS).

I didn't really know him that well but what I found out as time went on was that he was the best manager of men that I had come across in 30 years of police work.

Then a DCI, he chose his men carefully and made sure he put round pegs in round holes. The result was he created what I consider to be one of the best team of detectives in the most successful period in 5RCS history.

They worked hard, played hard and were, in the true sense of the word, a family – all because of his leadership.

He was also unflappable. I remember a kidnapping case in East London where we had lost sight of the suspect temporarily and people were becoming anxious. Not Roger. Clear instructions and advice led us to a block of flats nearby where the operation ended successfully.

He and I were close on the 'Supergrass' cases of the 1970s where the Brentwood RCS office had Charlie Lowe talking and, three years after the start of that enquiry, Charlie returned to society with a new identity.

Some time afterwards, Roger, by now a detective superintendent in Essex CID, was woken by a custody sergeant in Suffolk saying he had a man in custody on drugs importation charges. The man claimed to know Roger and would he

come and see him. Roger turned out in the middle of the night and arrived to find Charlie sitting there!

Roger became chairman of the Gentlemen of Essex CID Cricket Club in 1996 – he was also Chief Steward at Essex County Cricket Club.

Under his chairmanship, the club has gone from strength to strength. A range of fixtures, close association with the County Ground staff and tours each year as far apart as Holland and Barbados were due to his enthusiasm and support for players.

Bob Miller
 Team Manager
 Gentlemen of Essex CID Cricket Club
 ● Please turn to Page 8 for a tribute to former Assistant Chief Constable Roger Richardson

Gone . . . but not forgotten Down Memory Lane . . .

Pc Joseph Watt – Essex County Constabulary
 Served from April 2, 1906. Died September 8, 1913

PC Joseph Watt was a married man of 32 when he moved to Southend for the first two years of his police service.

He was then transferred to Romford, where he earned nine commendations and was regarded as an excellent officer.

On August 27, 1913, Pc Watt was on duty in Romford High Street when he saw a runaway horse, drawing a four-wheeled van, coming towards him.

The horse had been startled by a motorbus while it was eating from a nosebag – one man had already been injured while trying to stop the terrified animal. As the horse drew level with Pc Watt, he managed to grab its mane, running beside it while he tried to bring it to a halt.

Sadly, he caught his foot on the pavement and fell beneath the van wheels. He died later from his injuries.



● Pc Joseph Watt

THANKS to all the people who sent emails and letters to *The Law* after we printed this picture of behalf of Murray Coleman, who was looking to identify the people included. Former Pc Peter Whatling said the picture was taken in 1964 in Great Eastern Avenue, Southend, just prior to Southend County Borough Constabulary setting out to celebrate the jubilee of the force (1914-1964).

Pictured from left to right are Pc Whatling, Pc Doug Richards, known as 'Big Doug', seated is the late Pc Eric Widdicombe, next to him is the late Ps Harry Barnes and, as Murray Coleman



stated, his father Pc John Coleman is standing on the right. The bike was a Norton

Dominator. Thanks to Peter Whatling, Pat O'Keefe, Alan Watkins, Ray Law,

Peter Donovan, Mick Radford and Ron Holloway, who sent in their comments.

For details of all those featured in the Essex Police Roll of Honour, visit the Memorial Trust website at www.essex.police.uk/memorial If you have any information you feel could be added to the website, email memorialtrust@essex.pnn.police.uk or write to the Memorial Trust at Essex Police HQ.

Corner the chairman



● **Essex Police Authority chairman Robert Chambers**

Meeting our challenges in the year ahead

“I WAS very pleased that the other members of Essex Police Authority voted for me to continue as chairman for another year. I want to express my thanks to them for their support and I hope together we can continue to look at ways to improve our service to the public.

Neil Macdonald, an Independent member, was also re-appointed as vice-chairman.

He has been a loyal member of the police authority for four years and is keen to continue his work with the police authority and Chief Officers in driving forward the force and authority objectives.

I am a councillor member of the authority and I have been a Conservative member of Uttlesford District Council for more than 25 years.

I started work with the police authority in 1997. This is now my fifth year as chairman and I am still passionate, enthusiastic and dedicated to doing my best for the people of Essex.

And I am proud of what we, as an authority, have achieved over the last five years and beyond.

All members are committed to looking at ways we can do business differently for the benefit of Essex communities.

We have seen our performance improve significantly, which is very encouraging. The authority, with the Chief Officer team, has set very challenging and demanding targets for the year ahead – because we want to push our standards even further and become the best-performing force in the country.

We also know that these targets can be realised and we are pleased with the work of all officers and staff so far, in helping to achieve these aims.

We have also seen an increase in officers on the front line and we hope to continue this, through our joint working with Kent and other forces in the eastern region.

It is an honour and a privilege to be chairman of Essex Police Authority. I am looking forward to working with Essex Police and the public this year.”

Testicular cancer: I survived it

IN March 2002, the discomfort I had been suffering in my right testicle for some time became so bad I was forced to put my embarrassment to one side and visit my GP. Within days, I had an ultrasound examination, which revealed the tissues of my right testicle appeared ‘abnormal’.

The consultant radiologist said it might have to be removed. Faced with the prospect that it could be cancerous, I simply asked myself, whether I would rather grow old with one testicle, or die young with two – no contest!

Within days I saw a consultant urologist for the orchidectomy – removal of my right testicle. It turned out I was fortunate in having the least serious, ‘stage one’ cancer, with a 98 per cent chance of recovery and a normal life-expectancy afterwards.

A post-operative scan proved clear, however, my surgeon felt it was safest for me to have radiotherapy on my lymph nodes as they can act as a ‘fast-track’ carrier for cancer cells around the body.

I had 15 sessions in three weeks and felt nauseous, tired and sick for up to six hours after every session.

In July 2002, *The Law* published an article about my experience and, thankfully, five years on, I am here to retell my story, to a new generation of male police officers and staff.

Five years ago, Pc Paul Watson was given the news that all men dread – he had testicular cancer. Now he wants to share his experience with others because, as he says, ‘it can happen to you!’

All men, particularly aged 15-35, need to be aware of how their testicles ‘feel’ when normal so they will notice changes if they occur. Common symptoms/characteristics to raise concern are: a lump; any enlargement or shrinking of a testicle; heaviness of the scrotum; or a dull ache in the lower abdomen or groin. Even lower backache can be attributed to testicular cancer.

Five years ago, I joined that very fortunate group of individuals who have survived testicular cancer and I want men to realise you’re not ‘fire-proof’ and that testicular cancer can happen to you.

However, with early diagnosis and appropriate treatment it is highly curable.

● To speak to Paul about his experience, contact him via Shoebury Police Station or email him at paulwatson1@tiscali.co.uk

● Contact health surveillance nurse Jacqui De La Salle in HQ Occupational Health on ext 58611 for more info or go straight to your GP if you are worried



● **Pc Paul Watson, of Shoebury, has survived testicular cancer**

Units forge closer link on division

NOW the day-to-day management of our Professional Development Units (PDUs) has moved to divisions, new sites have been created at Clacton, Benfleet and Loughton.

PDU Manager Insp Chris Galley is still based at Essex Police College (EPC) but he says the move will ensure even closer links between the development of the future officers of Essex Police and the communities they will serve.

And, with the provision of professional development officers at each PDU, the college will ensure each student officer will be assessed to the required National Occupational Standards and, ultimately, each successful officer will gain an NVQ in Policing.

Chris said: “This will be the first time student officers will be able to achieve a national qualification in their chosen profession.

“These closer links between EPC and divisions should mean student officers gain all the development they need and are best-prepared for the reality of policing in Essex today.”

Initial feedback from district commanders has been favourable, said Chris.

Clacton’s Chief Insp Steve Robinson, who has ‘gained’ a PDU, said: “It has lifted the station and given the district’s officers a much better understanding of the PDU – I think we will start seeing developed and well-supported officers coming out of the unit as the links between the PDU and the teams are already starting to be forged.”

And Chris added: “I think this will be a good opportunity to make the link with reality stronger for the student officers and to indicate that the college will always work with divisions to best equip the officers of the future to work in a demanding environment.”

A gardening gift

FORMER Essex Police officer Jane Bastow raised a total of £890, which was split between the RNLI and other charities, by opening her garden in South Elmham, near Halesworth, Suffolk.

Heroic officer selected for top bravery award

AN officer from South-Western Division, who restrained a man who attacked him with a carving knife has been nominated as the force’s bravest officer.

Richard Mould, of Grays, has been nominated for the annual Police Bravery Award, run by the Police Federation and sponsored by *The Sun* newspaper.

The 23-year-old Neighbourhood Policing officer was nominated after an incident off-duty in September 2005.

Essex Police Federation chairman Pc Sue Kelly said: “Richard demonstrated considerable courage and restraint under very difficult circumstances and sustained an injury to his back and hand as a result of the man’s attack.”

On his way to meet some friends after a night out in Romford, Pc Mould and a friend were approached by a man with a

by **Nicola Bastendorff**

concealed weapon.

The man produced a large carving knife from his sleeve and attempted to stab Pc Mould in the chest.

Pc Mould moved quickly to avoid the knife and shouted to warn his friend.

His attacker demanded Pc Mould’s wallet and it was at this point that he identified himself as an off-duty police officer.

However the man attacked Pc Mould again. Pc Mould courageously defended himself and his friend by grabbing hold of the man’s knife-wielding arm and wrestled him to the ground.

Because of what is believed to have been drug-induced strength and profuse sweating, the man proved to be very difficult to control.

Pc Mould tried to keep the knife pinned underneath the man so he could not attack again and was eventually able to disarm him.

The officer remained in control of the situation and continued to attempt to calm the man down in spite of his aggressive resistance and violent behaviour.

Pc Mould was assisted by his friend in restraining the man and was then able to contact Metropolitan Police colleagues for back-up. Only when he heard sirens did the man release the knife.

He was arrested and charged with robbery and carrying an offensive weapon and subsequently sentenced to four months’ imprisonment.

The Police Bravery Awards were established in 1996 to recognise outstanding acts of courage by officers who put themselves at risk from death or serious injury on a daily basis.

The awards are due to be held at The Dorchester Hotel in London on Thursday, July 12, following a reception at Downing Street where the nominees will meet Prime Minister Gordon Brown and Home Secretary Jacqui Smith.

Public Protection Unit is set up

THE head of the force’s new Public Protection Unit has spoken out about his job.

DCI Ewen Wilson moved into his new role last month – prior to that he was Central Division’s Crime Manager.

He is now based in HQ Crime Division, with responsibility for strategy and policy surrounding sex offenders, dangerous offenders, domestic violence and abuse, hate crime and missing persons.

DCI Wilson said: “I am really looking forward to co-ordinating the various work streams as they all present a significant challenge for the force.

“I intend to work very closely with divisions regarding the implementation of the strategy and provide as much support as possible.

“Having come from Central Division I am acutely aware of the issues BCUs (Basic Command Units) face.”

● See Page 8 for more transfers within the force

Gearing up for a charity cycle ride

FIFTEEN officers and support staff are gearing up to take part in a 59-mile cycle ride to raise money for charity.

Chief Insp Nick Lee and 14 others from Communications Division are taking part in the London to Southend bike ride on Sunday, July 15. Nick said: “It wasn’t difficult to recruit people to take part. We have a real mix of abilities, sex and ages. We will ride together and I have set a target of six hours. We even have a team strip, which is yellow and black, so we will look like giant bumblebees.

“The ride will be good for team building, good for fitness levels and we are raising money for charity so it is all positive.”

The team hope to raise £2,000 for Ali’s Dream – a charity raising money for children with cancer – and they also have a signed England Rugby shirt to raffle.

● To buy a raffle ticket, contact Chief Insp Nick Lee via email

Now check your own service record

EMPLOYEE Self Service has been launched to enable everyone in the force to be able to view their NSPIS-HR record.

Personal details, sickness history, training history and current posting – all from April 1, 2005 – can be viewed by the individual concerned.

Employees can verify the content and query discrepancies, through the system, directly with their HR section.

Head of HR Michelle Wall said: “I am pleased to launch Employee Self Service in Essex Police.

“This is the start of changes to the HR system which will enable staff to ensure their data is accurate and updated in a timely manner.

“It will be followed by the introduction of workflow and automatic management information later in the year.”

● To access Employee Self Service, simply click on the tab at the top left of the intranet home page – all except agency staff can able to view it

Crime down among crooks who 'travel'

AN aggressive campaign targeting persistent offenders and travelling crooks is paying dividends in south-west Essex, new figures have revealed.

Statistics show a dramatic fall in robberies, vehicle crime and criminal damage since the launch of Operation Sprint there earlier this year.

In April, the total number of crimes committed in South-Western Division fell to 2,498, compared to 2,729 in April 2006.

A similar drop was recorded in May with the total number of crimes down to 2,525 – against 2,843 in May 2006.

With 549 fewer offences committed over the two months, crime has been reduced by 9.8 per cent.

The biggest success was in combating robberies – numbers have fallen from 94 this time last year to 70 now.

Divisional commander Chief Supt Simon Coxall praised the hard work of his officers and support staff in tackling crime in one of the county's smallest but busiest divisions.

Operation Sprint was launched to identify persistent local offenders, to 'breathe closely down their necks' and to reduce their activities while also targeting villains from outside the area who travel from east London – by road or rail – or around the M25 to commit crimes in the division.

The use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) has proved to be a huge success and the Sprint strategy has also allowed police to keep watch on 'hotspots' which were regular targets for villains.

Chief Insp Alan Cotgrove, Thurrock District Commander, said: "The move to Neighbourhood Policing has also supported our community engagement and drive to provide public reassurance with dedicated officers and PCSOs linking in with their local communities."

Closure a result of teamwork

A CRACK house closure in Colchester was the result of a joint clean-up in the neighbourhood by the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) and the community.

Colchester Town NPT has successfully applied for a Closure Order under Section 1 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act at 24 Maidenburgh Street, Colchester.

Insp John Hayter said: "It is the third such order in Maidenburgh Street in the past few years – a street that has been blighted by nuisance behaviour related to the use of class A drugs."

"This order is another example of Colchester Town NPT's commitment to robustly deal with all manner of anti-social behaviour and is a fine example of what can be achieved when the community and police work in partnership."

999 Safety Day is a success

GILL Hicks, brave survivor of the London bombings and author of *One Unknown*, opened the Burnham 999 Safety Day last month.

Gill was signing copies of her book at the free day out, which provided displays by Essex Police, Essex Fire and Rescue, the East of England Ambulance NHS Trust and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

There was a parents' zone with experts covering such topics as drug and alcohol abuse, anti-bullying, diversity awareness and anti-social behaviour.

Meet our Neighbourhood Specialist Officers

by Nicola Bastendorff

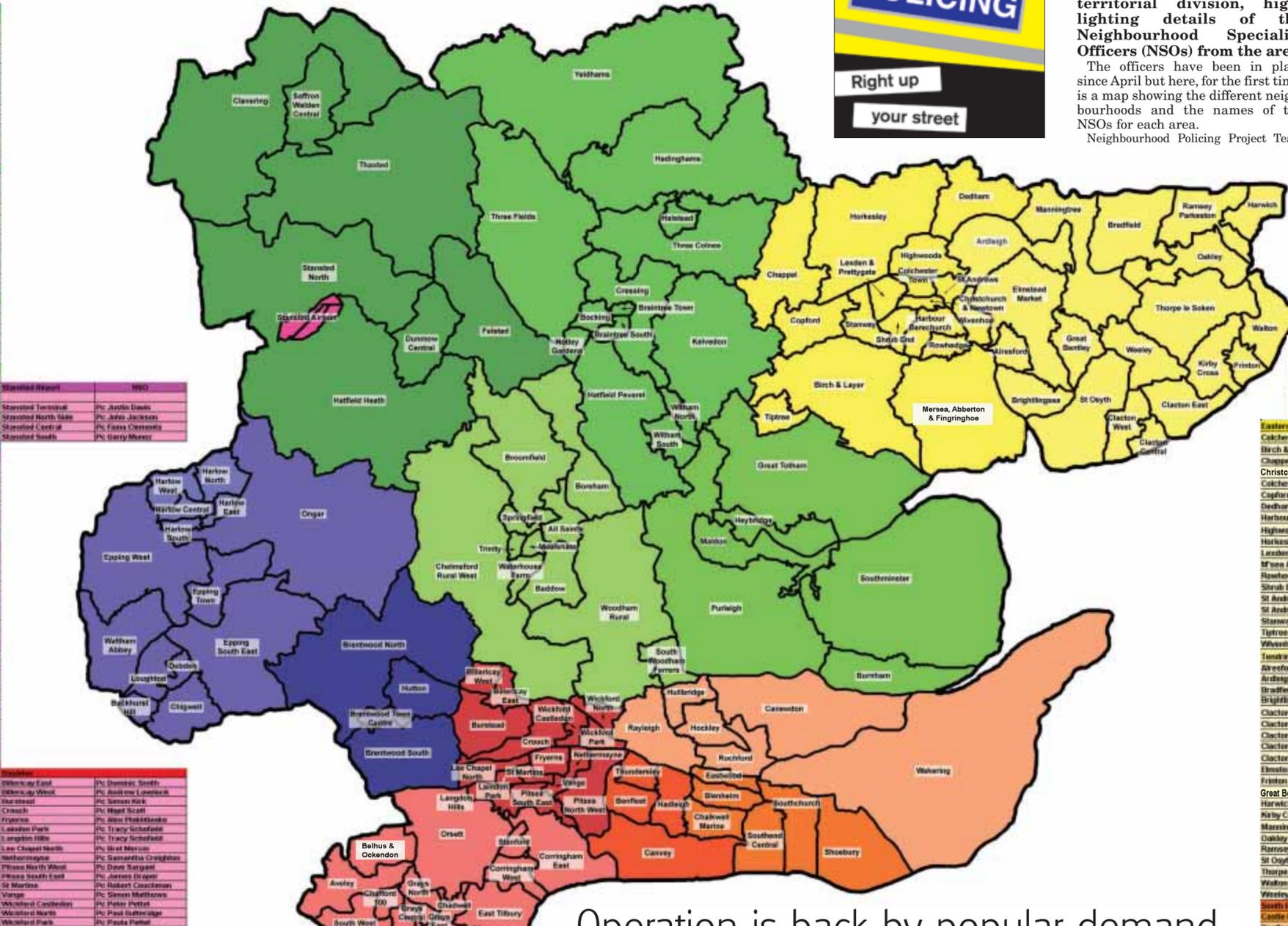
OVER the next five months, *The Law* will feature one neighbourhood from each territorial division, highlighting details of the Neighbourhood Specialist Officers (NSOs) from the area.

The officers have been in place since April but here, for the first time, is a map showing the different neighbourhoods and the names of the NSOs for each area.

Neighbourhood Policing Project Team



Division	NSO
Central	
Beckingham	Pc Andrea Ford
Beckingham South	Pc Yoni Farber
Beckingham Town	Pc Ella Howes
Crossing	Pc Liam Fuller
Holstead	Pc Barrie Schatz
Hatfield Dover	Pc Paul Goodling
Reddington	Pc Matt Mullender
Harlow	Pc Natalie Harring
Harlow Gardens	Pc Denise Scates
Three Colnes	Pc Matt Corbett
Three Fields	Pc Peter Carter
Whitton North	Pc Jerry White
Whitton South	Pc Jan Evans
Yaldham	Pc Nicky Smith
Stamford	
Wickham	Pc Corinne Chinn
Southam	Pc Mark Orsby
Brassfield	Pc Martin Pawley
Chelmsford Rural West	Pc Alan Davy
Tiptree	Pc Eleanor Carmichael
Goats Hall	Pc Rosalie Lacking
All Saints	Pc Christine Bennett
Woodham	Pc Tim Hogg
South Woodham Forest	Pc Paul Freeman
Springfield	Pc Mark Thorne
Waterhouse Farm	Pc Jamie Mills
Woodham Rural	Pc Paul Freeman
Waltham	
Waltham	Pc Martin Mearns
Great Waltham	Pc Andrew Emley
Haybridge	Pc Santa Murgatroyd
Malden	Sergeant Richa Miller
Parfith	Pc Tom England
Southminster	Pc Ian Turner
Waltham	
Chelmsford	Pc Santa Graydon
Dunston Central	Pc Nicola Hayden
Felsted	Pc Alison Cohen
Hatfield Heath	Pc Bradley Hooley
Saffron Walden Central	Pc Ian Wierack
Saffron Walden North	Pc Jo Jagger
Staveland	Pc Tracy Lockhart Oly
Western	
Woodward	
Woodward North	Pc Louise Long
Woodward North	Pc Daryl McAsland
Woodward South	Pc David Smith
Woodward South	Pc David Smith
Woodward Town Centre	Pc Trevor Tubbs
Woodward Town Centre	Pc Carly Merritt
Wiffen	Pc Paul Harris
Wiffen	Pc Louise Straker
Central Rural	
Beckingham Hill	Sergeant Matt Tenney
Claydon	Sergeant Andrea Dams
Colchester	Pc Alan Mason
Spring South East	Sergeant Tony Walker
Spring Town	Sergeant Steven Wright
Spring West	Sergeant Steven Wright
Leedkirk	Pc Ann Tilly
Spring	Pc Alan Taylor
Waltham Abbey	Pc Chris Lawoff
Mersea	
Mersea Central 02268	Pc Dave Bull
Mersea Central 02269	Pc Andrea Dickson
Mersea Central 02270	Pc George Brockell
Mersea West 02271	Pc David Taylor
Mersea West 02272	Pc Lewis Sutherland
Mersea North 02273	Pc James Ward
Mersea North 02274	Pc Karen Gannon
Mersea East 02275	Pc Chris Bennett
Mersea East 02276	Pc Richard O'Neil
Mersea South 02277	Pc Peter Crane
Mersea South 02278	Pc Julie Harris
South Woodham	
Wickham	
Wickham	Pc Rachel Martin
Wickham	Pc Dan Woodard
Wickham	Pc Chris Adams
Chaffin Hill	Pc Anthony Thomas
Carborough East	Pc Helen Brennan
Carborough West	Pc Jac Sears
East Tilbury	Pc Glen Evans
Great Central	Pc Tony Walker
Grays East	Pc Louise Martin
Grays North	Pc Dan Corbett
Grays South	Pc Andy Linton
Graysden	Pc Dan Woodard
Orsett	Pc Nick Luff
Stamford	Pc Chris Birch
SW Thurrock	Pc Leigh Peters
Tilbury	Pc Rob Thompson
Wickham	
Wickham East	Pc Damien Smith
Wickham West	Pc Pauline Lomenick
Wickham	Pc Simon Kirk
Wickham	Pc Stuart Scott
Wickham	Pc Alan Platt
Wickham	Pc Tracy Schofield
Wickham	Pc Ward Mason
Wickham	Pc Samantha Crockett
Wickham	Pc Dave Sargent
Wickham	Pc James Dwyer
Wickham	Pc Robert Coates
Wickham	Pc Simon Matthews
Wickham	Pc Peter Hyett
Wickham	Pc Paul Sutherland
Wickham	Pc Paula Patten



Neighbourhood	NSO
Colchester	Pc Ian Lewis
Birch & Layer	Pc Ian Lewis
Clapgate	Pc Joanne Barlow
Christchurch Newtown	Pc Audrey Hart
Colchester Town	Pc Rob Tenney
Cayford	Pc Joanne Barlow
Deedham	Pc Joanne Barlow
Harlow Berechurch	Pc Amanda Cook
Highwoods Mile End St Johns	Pc Steve Wilson
Horshamley	Pc Joanne Barlow
Leaden Pretygote	Pc Fiona Harrington
Maree Abboton Fringinghoe	Pc Ian Lewis
Rowledge	Pc Amanda Cook
Strub End	Pc Fiona Harrington
St Andrews St Annes	Pc Spencer Nettle
St Andrews St Annes	Pc Rob Harrell
Starway	Pc Fiona Harrington
Tiptree	Pc Ian Lewis
Whitton	Pc Wendy Byrne
Tending	
Alresford	Pc Caroline Webb
Ardagh	Pc Chris Phillips
Bradfield	Pc Chris Phillips
Brightlingsea	Pc Caroline Webb
Clacton Central	Pc Adam Westall
Clacton East	Pc Julia Finch
Clacton East	Pc Rob Harrington
Clacton West	Pc Tom Cogan
Clacton West	Pc Grant Jermann
Embsay Market	Pc Caroline Webb
Frinton	Pc Rob Day
Great Bentley	Pc Caroline Webb
Harley Cross	Pc Rob Day
Manningtree	Pc Chris Phillips
Osley	Pc Matt Louch
Ramsey and Parkston	Pc Matt Louch
St Oyston	Pc Caroline Webb
Thorpe Le Soken	Pc Caroline Webb
Woolley	Pc Rob Day
Woolley	Pc Caroline Webb
Southminster	
Castle Point	
Berdest	Pc Sharon Polkinghorne
Canvey	Pc Jess Fisher
Hedleigh	Pc Rebecca Mullins
Thundersley	Pc Matthew Francis
Rochford	
Caroleon	Pc Gary Towner
Hockley	Pc Steve Jaynes
Hullbridge	Pc Steve Judd
Rayleigh	Pc Graham Hall
Hickfield	Pc Michelle Rowson
Wakon	Pc Steve Thomas
Southend	
Discham	Pc Scott Geary
Chalkwell Marina	Pc Paul Tucker
Eastwood	Pc Neil Gale
Shoebury	Pc Paul Watson
Southchurch	Pc Mark Sawyer
Southend Central	Pc Wyn Sharp
Southend Central	Pc Chris Martin
Southend Central	Pc Dan Grant
Southend Central	Pc Wayne Nolan

Operation is back by popular demand

POLICE and fellow members of The Safer Harlow Partnership have discussed the success of Operation Catch and Crush and Harlow's handling of mini motos and quad bikes with an MP. Alistair Carmichael, Liberal Democrat Shadow Transport Secretary, visited the town last month and was told of the operation's success – it was brought back this year by popular demand. The Safer Harlow Partnership is sending out 3,000 letters to schoolchildren in the town, reminding parents and owners of the dangers of allowing their children to ride mini motos on public roads. There are strict limitations on who can ride these machines – a valid driving licence, road tax and proper insurance are needed if using a mini-motorbike on the road or in public places and they must be ridden responsibly.

Riding in an anti-social manner, or causing alarm and distress to others could result in an £80 penalty and can lead to the vehicle being confiscated by police. Once seized, a recovery charge is payable before the return of the machine. Parents are also reminded that it is an offence for youngsters to ride these machines on private land unless they have the permission of the landowner. Harlow District Commander Chief Insp Paul Eveleigh said: "We are currently investigating all incidents reported to us this summer and we will be placing warning posters at schools and hot spot areas. "Residents have the right to live in peace and we assure them we will do all that we can to stamp out this nuisance"

Police aim to score with soccer scheme

POLICE in Manningtree aim to keep youngsters on side by launching north Essex's first ever police-run summer holiday football league. The goal is to build bridges with young people and to keep them on the straight and narrow. Mistley PCSO Dave Cuthbert dreamt up the tournament in response to residents' concerns about youths hanging around on street corners. He said: "We're trying to give the kids something to do over the summer holidays. "We sometimes get reports of youths congregating and behaving in an anti-social manner. When they are challenged, we always get the same response: 'We've got nothing to do around here, especially during the summer'."

The indoor, five-a-side football tournament is for boys and girls aged 13 to 16 from the Mistley, Manningtree and Lawford areas. It has been funded by grants from Lawford, Manningtree and Mistley parish councils. Sgt Neil Barker, of Mistley Neighbourhood Policing Team, explained: "We are putting our time and effort into this to give the area's young people something fun to do, but we expect something in return. "We will show the red card to players identified as being involved in bad behaviour or criminal activity. "And if the problem is serious enough we will show the red card to the whole team and will consider banning the whole team as a result of the individual's actions."

"We hope this will encourage some kind of team spirit and a collective responsibility." The sessions will take place on Thursdays from 3pm to 5pm Manningtree School sports centre, from July 26 to August 30. The tournament will be co-ordinated by a mixture of police officers, PCSOs and sports centre staff. And trophies will be awarded to the best-behaved team and the champions – who will then go on to play in a friendly against a side made up of officers from the Manningtree Neighbourhood Policing Team. Only ten teams can enter. Application forms are available from Mistley Police Station and must be completed and returned by Thursday, July 19.

More purse chains

SHOPPERS and traders have hailed a police initiative aimed at deterring pickpockets and purse thieves. PCSOs Andrew Hill and Dave Page distributed 120 purse security chains to older residents from a stall in Spa Road Hockley. Also lending a hand was parish councillor Veronica Randall. Said PCSO Hill: "The event was a great success. We distributed and fitted all the chains in just a couple of hours. The response from the public and local traders was extremely positive. The traders were particularly appreciative, given that there have been a number of incidents in the area recently."

Holiday lets

COSTA Blanca, La Marina, luxury two-bedroom, two-bathroom villa. Sleeps four to six, air conditioning. Community pool. Beach/shops five mins, golf ten mins, airport 25 mins. From £150-£300 per week. Ring Mick Ager on 07775 676142 or +34 617 110 096 or email casado-mi02@hotmail.com

COSTA Brava, two bedroom water-side holiday apartment in Empuriabrava. Best location for beach, shops and restaurants. Forty minutes from Girona airport. £250 per week. Ring John on 01268 756533.

FLORIDA, luxury, four-bed villa, private pool near Disney and golf. Police discount. Free brochure. Contact Jill on 01702 586092 or visit www.my-florida-villa.net

FRANCE, beamed stone cottage with woodburner, sleeps two to four. Quiet location, lots nearby. Two hours from Caen, five hours from Calais. £150-£175 a week. Contact Emma on 07711 421579 or at em.bowditch1975@btinternet.com

NORTHERN France, 3 comfortably furnished gites/cottages with original beams and modern comforts. Peaceful rural countryside. Situated between Hesdin and Arras. An hour from Calais. Ring 01375 483045 or visit www.le-petit-hameau.com

ORLANDO, luxury villa, four bedrooms, three bathrooms, sleeps up to ten. Private pool near Disney and other central Florida attractions. Contact Alison and Michael on 01245 266949 or 01376 573406.

SCOTTISH Highlands. Associates to police welcome for B&B. Fishing, shooting, walking, bird-watching, ski-ing in the Cairngorms National Park. Reductions for police. Ring Andy Nunn on 01479 841717 or email apf.nunn@btinternet.com

SOUTHERN France, luxury B&B with ensuite. Rural location near lively town. Police discounts. Contact John Taylor on +33 468 201105 or visit www.domaine-stgeorge.com

SOUTHERN Spain, first-floor, three-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment, sleeps six. Kitchen, dining room, lounge, large terrace. Five mins to beach, restaurants and shops. Golf, 30 mins from airport. Ring Sue/Mike on 01621 838179 or +34 650 124 382.

TURKEY, new apartment, sleeps six with sea views. In Yalikavak on Bodrum Peninsula. Twenty five minutes from airport. For brochure ring 01379 788152 or e-mail

joddy147@aol.com
TUSCANY, Italy. Romantic, rustic, Medieval romantic village retreat nestling in the foothills of northern Tuscany. Breathtaking views. Perfect base – one hour to Florence, Pisa and Italian Riviera. Ring 07919 057437 for further details.

WELLS-next-the-Sea, Norfolk, delightful character cottage, renovated to high standard. Two bedrooms, walk to quayside, shops and beach. Private parking and courtyard garden. Ring 07919 057437 for details.

Wedding car hire

ROLLS Royce wedding car hire. Extra special service for your special day. Braintree, Colchester and Uttlesford districts. Uniformed chauffeur, full insurance. Contact Pete Caulfield on 01787 477537 or visit www.rweddings.co.uk

WEDDING car hire. White Rolls Royce Silver Shadow II. Discounted rate for police employees. Visit www.specialdaycarhire.co.uk email info@specialdaycarhire.co.uk or contact Dave or Sally Swann on 01277 364626.

For sale

CARAVAN Abbey GTS 418, 2004 Mover. Fixed bed, excellent condition. Heating, shower etc. £10,000 ono. Contact Derek Arber on 01255 814103 or 07999 548293.

FORD Mondeo, 1.8LX, V registration, five door hatchback, 57,000 miles, good condition. Service history, MoT January 2008, Air-conditioning, ABS, central locking and electric windows. £1,950. Contact Peter on 07816 918664.

PIAGGIO 50cc scooter, 2003 registration. Clean, tax and MoT 2008. Used by adult. 10,000 km. £650. Phone Ken on 01206 212182.

PIAGGIO X9, 250cc scooter, 2002 registration. Silver. Very quick, economical, very good condition. 4,500 miles. Full service history. £950. Contact Dennis Oliver on 01799 513330.

VAUXHALL Corsa SXi 1.2, five door, 2002 registration, petrol, blue. Service history. £3,695 ono. 33,200 miles. Contact Geoff on 077487 67477 or e-mail gcmkam@btinternet.com

VW PASSAT diesel estate, silver. 1999 registration. 70k. Cruise control, 6 x CD, air conditioning, many extras. One owner. £3,500 ono. Ring 01708 449906 or e-mail peter.jiggins9@which.net

It's all change across county

THE last couple of months have witnessed a whirlwind of changes to command teams across the county, so here The Law offers a quick tour of people's movements.

At Stansted Airport, Chief Supt **Ian Gruneberg** has taken over as divisional commander while newly-promoted Chief Supt **Michelle Dunn** moves from the airport to the Home Office.

She is working on the Assessment of Police Performance and Community Safety (APACS) project as part of an indefinite secondment.

In the world of Criminal Justice, Chief Supt **Graeme Bull** has moved to work on the regional collaboration team while **Tricia Brennan** slips into the role of temporary head of the Criminal Justice Unit.

In Central Division, Supt **Tim Newcomb** changes back into a uniform after nearly three years at Crime Division to take over from Supt **Colin Steele**, who has moved to work on regional collaboration.

DCI **Ewen Wilson** keeps his suit but moves from being Central's Crime Manager over to HQ as head of the new Public Protection Unit.

In Crime Division, **Terry Haines** is temporarily promoted to detective superintendent and takes over from Tim Newcomb as Director of Intelligence.

And Det Supt **Kevin Macey** moves across to head up the Investigative Review Team while Det Supt **Gareth Wilson** takes over as Director of Specialist Investigations – moving from the regional collaboration team.

In South-Eastern Division, DCI **Tim Raymond** has been appointed the new Crime Manager while Chief Insp **Tracy Hawkings** has a few weeks left as Castle Point District Commander before taking over as Central's new Crime Manager – the post vacated by Ewen Wilson.

Over at South-Western, **Geordie Tyson** joins Michelle Dunn at the Home Office, also on an indefinite secondment, but working in the Police and Partnership Standards Unit while being promoted temporarily to superintendent.

And **Pauline Bowers**, of the Force Information Room, steps into the role of Crime Manager, on temporary promotion to detective chief inspector.

In Eastern Division, **Steve Johnson** is the new detective chief inspector while **Julie MacFarlane** takes a career break. Chief Insp **Adrian Coombs** takes over from Steve as the new district commander for Colchester.

And last, but not least, in Western Division, Chief Insp **Jon Hill** moves to HQ to join Corporate Development's Programme and Planning Unit while Chief Insp **Alan Ray** takes over on a temporary basis as district commander for Epping.

Retirements

The force waved goodbye to Insp **Andy Norton** after nearly 34 years of service, all in south Essex. Andy, 53, retired after spending the last seven years in Thurrock, with stints on Traffic and at Brentwood Police Station prior to that.

He now has more time to spend with his wife of 31 years, Wendy, at their home in Leigh.

And Insp **Alan King** will leave Colchester later this month after more than 32 years with the force.

He started out at Clacton and then undertook a spell training before moving to Colchester Custody and then on to Bocking Traffic. He also spent time with the UN in East Timor before returning to Colchester.

Two members of police staff retired last month, having given a total of 32 years' service to the force.

And Pc **Simon Halford**, 48, is leaving at the end of this month, after 30 years with the force, spent at Chelmsford Town and HQ before ending his career at South Woodham Ferrers Professional Development Unit.

Vivienne Godwin, 62, worked for the force for more than 18 years. Latterly, she was a Service Desk Assistant at Rayleigh Police Station.

And **Leslie Miller**, 65, retired after almost 14 years in the Finance Department at HQ.

Obituaries

Former Assistant Chief Constable and Head of Crime Roger Richardson, 74, has died following a stroke.

Mr Richardson was still active in Essex Police circles and was chairman of the Gentlemen of Essex CID Cricket Club.

He served from February 1954 to January 1985 at Clacton, Harwich, Colchester, Brentwood, CID at HQ and Chelmsford and with the Regional Crime Squad at Harlow and Brentwood, retiring as acting ACC.

If necessary he was a strict disciplinarian but always supported his officers. Detectives who knew him well said he always listened, never panicked in a tight situation and was a role model for young officers.

Mr Richardson was the boss at Brentwood-based 5 Regional Crime Squad in the 1970s, when it was reckoned probably to be the most successful crime squad in the country.

Ex-Det Supt David Bright was on surveillance when everything started

to happen. "The gunner, who was listening to the cricket on a radio, said 'haven't those criminals got any thought for anyone? Essex need 27 to win and Gooch is in!'" he recalled.

Mr Richardson was one of the few officers who remained in CID for most of their careers.

He joined Essex Police after serving in the RAF Military Police.

His wife Norma died from cancer in her 50s. He leaves a son Robert, daughter Lynn, four grandchildren and his partner of 17 years, Petrina.

Ex-detective superintendent **Clive Seal**, of Colchester, has died, aged 59. He leaves a widow, Win.

Mr Seal served from February 1967 to May 1997, firstly with the Southend Borough Force and then in Colchester, CID, at Braintree and at HQ in the Fraud Squad, Major Incidents and Crime Division.

Former constable **John Kennett**, of Margate in Kent, has died, aged 70. He leaves a widow, Joyce. He served from March 1961 to June 1962 in Chelmsford.

Former HQ chauffeur **Frederick Waite**, of Witham, has died. He was 92. Mr Waite served the force for 28 years, from 1952 to 1980.

Awards

Sgt **Andrew Spink**, of Essex Police College, has been awarded the Chartered Management Institute Certificate in Management from Colchester Institute.

Web developer **Steve Pollard**, of Media & PR, has been awarded an Open University certificate in web applications development.

Former Deputy Chief Constable **Charles Clark**, who retired in December, has been awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for services to policing.

He said: "I am deeply honoured and delighted. I have had great satisfaction from delivering a service to the public for almost 40 years, most of that time serving in Essex and in particular I enjoyed the last ten years as Deputy Chief Constable."

Mr Clark led the work on youth justice for the Association of Chief Police Officers for over ten years.

He is a founder trustee and now chairman of the Essex Community Foundation, which invests and distributes funds across the county on behalf of individuals, companies, trusts and public agencies.

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● Top, two PolSAs practice how to recover body parts from a tree



● Officers, left, ready to start their body recovery training at Stansted Airport
● Above, officers on CBRN search training



● Right, a CBRN (chemical, biological, radioactive and nuclear) suit

PolSAs search for specialist answers

Only in the police force could you one day be taking a statement regarding a smashed window and the next be helping to recover the bodies of the victims of a horrendous road collision. The members of Essex Police's Police Search Advisor (PolSA) Team do just that and more! Press officer Donna Veasey finds out more.

THE PolSA team is capable of searching for improvised explosive devices and suspect packages, searching

the areas where VIP visitors will go, completing searches of crime scenes – such as murders, rapes and drugs raids – searching for high-risk missing people and conducting body recovery on behalf of the coroner.

Members also carry out CBRN (chemical, biological, radioactive and nuclear) searches which require special masks and suits.

Such activities require skill and precision and officers are trained at the Police National Search Centre during a week's course.

A special open day held by Mobile Support Division (MSD) at its Boreham base last month gave interested officers the opportunity to find out exactly what it takes to become a search team member, and also the sort of things they could find themselves doing.

Trained PolSA officers demonstrated the protocols surrounding a number of situations, including that of recovering bodies trapped in trees.

They also demonstrated what would happen during a CBRN search as well as how the force uses dogs to help search for people and objects.

The head of a PolSA team is a police search coordinator (PolSC) of which Essex has two: Chief Insp Iain Logan and Chief Insp Jon Dodman, who are based at MSD Boreham.

We then have 25 team leaders and around 107 search team members who have completed their training at the Police National Search Centre.

Sgt Julian Hallam is part of MSD's special operations team, with a responsibility for PolSA.



● Searching the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge at the Dartford River Crossing prior to its opening in 1991

He has been involved in searches since 1991 and a PolSA since 1997.

He said: "Officers wanting to become search team members need to be out of Probation and preferably without any other specialist attributes.

"We work long, unsociable hours and have to work whatever the weather."

However, Julian said there were benefits too. "We get to travel around the country as well as to other countries, for example to the G8 conference.

"And it is really nice to do something different."

So far this year, over 100 searches have been completed by the team, including cases of rape and robbery and fatal road collisions.

Police search teams were formed following the bombing

of the Grand Hotel in Brighton on October 12, 1984, when the British Government was targeted at the Conservative Party conference by the IRA.

The objectives of any search team are to protect potential targets, gain evidence for prosecutions, gain intelligence and deprive terrorists of their resources.

When searching for missing people, our PolSA teams can be helped volunteers from Essex Lowland Search and Rescue.

● Officers interested in becoming PolSA trained must be broadminded, enthusiastic, methodical, inquisitive, curious and have a willingness to work in all extreme conditions.

If this is you, contact Sgt Hallam at Boreham on ext 480627



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A selection of letters sent to our divisions and departments, thanking us for a job well done.

MY sincere thanks to your officers, including Pc Clare Walker, who came to the aid of my grandson in Colchester recently.

My daughter speaks so highly of them – the kindness, help and support given to my grandson at this time.

I enclose a small cheque for the Police Benevolent Fund as a token of our appreciation for the help given.

We, the public, appreciate the help the emergency services give us, who, in the course of their duties, can find themselves in stressful, difficult and sometimes dangerous situations. I admire, respect and thank them all.

**T C
Leigh on Sea**

TO Pcs Angela Hastings and Mark Hodgson.

THANK you both so much for attending the Awareness Raising for Trauma Training.

Your contributions over the three days were extremely useful and helped to increase crisis support workers' knowledge about the role of family liaison officers (FLOs) and the issues which can arise working with people affected by major incidents.

I really appreciate you being able to attend as having an FLO presence at our Crisis Support Team for Essex

training events is so valuable, not only for the extra knowledge but also for joint training – encouraging partnership between FLOs and crisis support workers.

**Emergency Plans Unit Essex
County Council**

SOME youths broke into our garage and stole some bottles of wine.

The first we knew of it was when Pc Graham Garnham, a dog handler, woke us at 2.15am – the police had been alerted by a neighbour.

Pc Garnham carried out his investigation in a quiet and efficient manner and throughout remained polite and cordial despite the hour.

Even more to his credit, he came back some time later with one of the bottles which had been stolen. This led to the arrest of the boys concerned.

The next day we were visited by a woman officer who took fingerprints and by Pc Marcus Buckley, who took a statement from me. Neither could have been more professional or polite.

You all have a very difficult job to do in the present climate. In my 80 years, I have had nothing but praise and gratitude for the work you do and these events prove that my judgement has been correct.

**E F
Colchester**

MY sister and I would like to thank the officers who were sent to check on our mother in Colchester at around 1am.

I phone her every night to check she is OK. That evening, despite many phone

calls, she didn't answer her phone and I became concerned. I live about 45 minutes away and my sister had had a drink.

We decided to call to see if a patrol car might be in the area and could check on her.

The lady who took the call was very helpful. As it was a Friday night, we knew you would be very busy so did not expect all the help you gave.

Officers went to the house within an hour and, as they were unable to raise her, they picked my sister up from Rowhedge so she could go into the house. Mum was asleep but OK.

The officers who attended this call were excellent. They had a good attitude and couldn't have been more helpful or reassuring. After seeing that mum was OK, one even called me let me know. How's that for good service?

**WH
Tilbury-juxta-Clare**

MY father passed away suddenly and I spoke to Pc Carrieanne Snell at Rayleigh to report it.

She was immediately compassionate and said that although no officers were available, she would attend.

Pc Snell attended my parents' home and was a credit to Essex Police. She dealt with the situation in a caring and compassionate manner.

This was an upsetting and distressing time for me and my mother but Pc Snell's actions enabled us to contact the funeral directors and deal with the death in a more prompt manner, thus saving

us from further distress. Please pass on mine and my family's thanks to Pc Snell for handling this situation in the nicest possible way at a sad time like this.

**E H
Thundersley**

A MEMBER of Neighbourhood Watch (NW), under my jurisdiction, received a panic call from her neighbour, a man of 92.

He had received a letter from Spain suggesting that he had inherited £10,000 and, when it was paid into his bank account, the people in Spain would arrive at his house to claim 65 per cent of the sum for themselves.

The old man was terrified that someone would present themselves at the door demanding money.

I told my member to let me have the letter and it was passed by Mick Holland, of NW, on to Sgt Nick Allen in Leigh Police Station.

Within a short space of time, two officers arrived at the old man's door and very gently extracted any fears and worries about people arriving to terrorise him.

The next day another person presented me with a similar letter which I took to

Sgt Allen, who assured me it would be dealt with. Within a matter of minutes, two police officers were at the address of the recipient to put their mind at rest.

Such wonderful efficiency and expertise as this deserves commendation and this is why I am writing to you.

Mr Holland, Sgt Allen and all the people under their command deserve a pat on the back for such superb and precise action. I am proud to be a part of an organisation which is helping officers to do their jobs.

The recipients who were involved with the letter think your officers are the best thing since sliced bread.

**Westcliff and Leigh
Neighbourhood Watch
Association**

I WOULD like to bring to your attention the assistance provided by two of your officers to two of my detective inspectors.

My officers travelled to Grays Police Station to meet Ds Neil Pudney and Dc Jerry Gay to discuss intelligence training.

Both your officers offered every assistance to my detective inspectors. They were extremely motivated and

went out of their way to ensure my officers were looked after and provided with all the relevant material and information they required.

Your officers presented an extremely positive image of your force.

**Chief Supt David Colbeck
Nottinghamshire Police**

THANK you for allowing me to spend some time with Colchester police as research for my dissertation.

I appreciate that you all must have been very busy at this time.

I spent three shifts with your officers and everyone I spoke to was very friendly and helpful with my queries. I would especially like to thank Insp Paul Morton, who arranged a variety of shifts over a busy Easter period.

I would also like to thank Pcs Tim Coe, Scott Lummis and Christian Denning and Hayley Debbage from the response team, Pcs Lea Westby and Steve Walsom, the PCSOs at Ipswich Road and also Del Walker, from the front desk at Colchester.

The time I spent with these officers was very beneficial.

**K T
Sheffield**

SIX £100 ACTION awards were made at the meeting of the Bonus and Honoraria Panel last month.

The work of officers and staff put forward for the awards demonstrated at least one of ACTION's six strands:

Achievement focus; Customer first; Taking responsibility for performance; Inspiring high standards; Overcoming hurdles; Never

accepting second-best. The recipients were: Melissa Allsup, of Mobile Support Division; Carly Tyrrell, of Essex Police College (EPC); Natalie Foster, of EPC; Vivienne Gravatt, of Communications Division; Paddy Cocks, of Communications Division; and Jacqueline Tomsett, of Human Resources.



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A strong field for the Croker athletics

THE new season's Croker Cup Track and Field Athletics Championships performed a triple role.

As well as counting towards the year-end Croker Cup tally, it was also used by organiser Derek Walker to select a force team for the PSUK National Athletics Championships in Blackpool. And this year, Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (ECFRS) competed, too.

Exceptional performances were displayed both on the track and in the field.

Western's Jon Hounslow won the men's 100m and Central's Sarah Brunt won the women's event.

G Baker (ECFRS) won the men's 200m while Central's Lisa Kiely won the women's.

HQ's Will Cubbin won the men's 400m while Eastern's Derek Walker took the 800m. The women's 800m was won by South-Eastern's Stacey Cocks and Central's Mark Schofield won the 1500m vets' race. The 3000m steeplechase saw Russ Welch, of HQ, win.

South-Eastern's Jaron Barnes excelled, winning the shot, javelin, discus and hammer while team-mate Carl Habbershaw won the high jump.

The long jump was won by Central's Dave Hiscock and the women's event went to South-Eastern's Penny Copeland.

The hammer was a demonstration event, won by Rob Earl (ECFRS). However, HQ's Shirley Quinn excelled with a personal best throw of 29m 13cms. She also won the shot, javelin and discus.

Finally, South-Eastern won the men's relay.

● Final results were: Central 214 points; HQ 187; South-Eastern 175; Western 88; Eastern 10.

● ESSEX is sending 29 athletes plus a tug of war team to Blackpool for the national championships this month

Gents take up winning ways on cricket pitch

THE Gentlemen of Essex CID Cricket Club opened their season with an exciting win over the Cricketers' Club of London at East Hanningfield.

They beat the visitors' 88 runs in the 20-over match by four wickets, with Dave Hiscock making 44 runs.

The Gents' next match was against the Gentlemen of Holland, at the private home of a Dutch cricket-loving businessman.

The CID team were at 75-7 before Mike Long steadied proceedings with 55 not out to ensure an innings total of 132-8.

The Dutch reached 63-5 before the rain fell and it was agreed the match should be an honourable draw.

● THE Police Credit Union has signed a three-year sponsorship deal with the British Police Cricket Club.

Members of the British Police Cricket team – selected from the 43 UK forces – now have new post-match polo shirts thanks to the credit union's support.

Central pick up where Braintree left off ...

CENTRAL Division swept the first Croker Cup competition to be held since divisional re-organisation last year.

The division is an amalgamation of the former Braintree and Chelmsford divisions and so, technically, Central have won the cup for the sixth consecutive year – Braintree Division having previously won it five times on the trot.

The 2006-2007 season culminated with seven events in a single month.

Western took the honours in darts with Central coming second and the pattern was repeated in billiards. South-Eastern, who were third in the darts, won both tennis and netball competitions. Central came second in both, and

HQ were placed third in the tennis. But Central beat Western in the snooker. HQ took the badminton honours, followed by South-Eastern, Western, Central with Eastern, in fifth place.

South-Western won the squash, with Central second, Eastern third, South-Eastern fourth and HQ fifth.

The final result, after 15 events, was: Central 107 points; South-Eastern 83; HQ 61; Western 49; Eastern 37; and South-Western 24.

● THE new season's Croker Cup is already in full swing, with Central again heading the leader board.

The triathlon, athletics and beach angling competitions have already been

held – the next scheduled event is the golf at Orsett on August 24.

Central have 27 points; South-Eastern 20; HQ 14; Eastern nine; Western six; and South-Western one.

● BOB Sandford and Tony Short helped South-Eastern to a win in the Croker Cup beach angling competition.

Clive Harding and Tim Hills, of Central, were second, and Ian Shead took third place for HQ.

The event was part of an open South East and Eastern competition, which was won by Hampshire Police – individually, the first three Essex places were taken by Bob Sandford, Phil Baxter and Ray Short.



CRICKET legend Sir Garfield Sobers dropped in on members of the Gents of Essex CID at HQ Sports Pavilion last month.

He is pictured receiving an Essex Police crest from Force Sports Secretary John Stonehouse. Sir Garfield was in the UK with members of the Barbados Travel and Tourism Board to watch the West Indies take on England in a Twenty20 international.

Following a successful tour of Trinidad and Tobago last year, a Gents of Essex CID team will visit Barbados next March, where they will play nine matches.

The Barbados Travel and Tourism Board will be taking care of the Gents during their trip and is organising a very special match against retired Test players.

● The chairman of the Gents of Essex CID Cricket Club, former Assistant Chief Constable Roger Richardson, died last month.

For tributes see Pages 4 and 8

By Holly Willson

Essex anglers take all honours in challenge

THE Essex angling team captain topped a great performance by his fellow anglers to win the individual title at the inaugural Celtic Challenge.

The team itself also won the team title by a fair way.

Graham Garnham won both his section and the individual title, with a weight of 32.4kg of bream, caught on the feeder.

Martin Woollard won his section and came second in the individual placings, with 27.17kg.

Paul Bird won his section with 18.3kg, Phil Brochen did the same in his section with 9.66kg, Gary Derrick was second with 21.1kg and Paul Chesney was fourth with 3.4kg, giving the Essex team a total of only ten points.

As well as the Essex team of six, Alan Diver and Mick Lawrence helped to make up part of a second, South East, team.

And they also did very well – Alan won his section with 18.26kg and Mick Lawrence got a third place with 9.86kg, helping their team to third place overall with 26 points.

Essex was one of six forces to rise to an

invitation from the Police Service of Northern Ireland to its inaugural fishing match, held on the lower River Bann at Portglenone, near Belfast.

Afterwards, Graham said: "As was expected, the Irish weather threw all it could muster at us over the three practice days but our newly-acquired team clothing kept us all dry and the hospitality of the host force took care of the rest.

"The second-placed team, Hampshire, had 21 points, so the Essex squad did an exceptional job on the day."

● ESSEX Police were due to host the PSUK regional event on July 5, as *The Law* went to print.

Banding together for remembrance charity fund-raising

ESSEX Police Band is joining a host of attractions for a musical and military extravaganza later this month to raise money for a students' tour of European battlefields and for

remembrance charities. High Ongar Royal British Legion and the Essex Remembrance Group is holding the event on Sunday, July 15, at Bridge Farm, Stanford Rivers, near Ongar.

The White Helmets motorcycle display team, the Red Devils free-fall parachute team and the Portsmouth gun display teams will be there and the Red Arrows should give a

fly-past, weather permitting.

● Gates open at 11am and the event starts at 2pm. Tickets are £6 on the day, £5 advance. Children and OAPs £5, advance £4 – call 01277 363985.

ACC gives Vince his great lottery news

DC Vince Atkinson must have got a shock when he was contacted by Assistant Chief Constable Derek Benson last month.

However it was simply to inform the Chelmsford Scenes of Crime Officer that he had won a Ford Ka in the force lottery.

Winner of the monthly £3,000 prize was Pc Elaine Michaels, of Stanway Dog Unit, Carey Greene, of the Force Information Room (FIR), won £1,000 and Janice Seaber, also of FIR, took the £500 prize.

Winners of £100 prizes were: Pc Vincent Brown, of Southend Central; Pc Kelly Allen, of Corringham; Brian Williams,

retired; Tanya Wynn, of Pitsea; Pc Warren Chine, of South Ockendon; Pc Dru Willcock, of FIR; Ds Greg Potter, of Witham; Sgt Nicholas Edwards, of Stanway Road Policing Unit (RPU); Malcolm Fester, of Braintree; Keith Southgate, retired; and Rodney Booth, retired.

Winners of £50 prizes were: Ds Gavin Price, of Harwich Port; Pc Michele Oliver, of Chelmsford Professional Development Unit; Natasha Griggs, of Southend; Jan Durr, of HQ Mobile Support Division; Sgt Darren Deex, of Harwich; Val Whitchurch, of Basildon; Sgt Iain

Mashed, of Stanway RPU; Moira Baker, of FIR; Chief Insp Craig Robertson, of Maldon; DI Steven Rawlings, on secondment; Ronald Parsons, retired; Linda Doyle, of Harlow; Alan Carter, of Colchester; and Dc Nicholas Franklin, of HQ Crime Division.

And winners of Benenden Healthcare bears were: Alex Draycott, retired; David Brew, retired; Pc George Rodway, of Eastwood; Jo Harcourt, of Waterhouse Farm; Helena Richardson, of Executive Support; and Pc Simon Cox, of Southend.

Keith's golf is swinging

KEITH Davies, of HQ Crime Division, has been selected to represent the national PSUK Golf Section in a match against the Civil Service next month at Walton Heath, Surrey.

Keith was selected because he came in the top 20 at the PSUK golf championship held in Oxford in May.

It is the third year Keith has represented PSUK.

● CALLING all golfers. Do you want to play a charity golf match, have a four-course evening meal and help to raise money for Victim Support?

A charity golf match is being held at Theydon Bois Golf Club on Friday, September 14, from 1.30pm.

It is a team event with the best two scores to count from a team of four.

Entry is £220 per team with prizes for the top three teams and nearest the pin competition. The closing date for entries is Friday, July 20.

● For further details, contact organisers on 01277 357 563 or by email at essex@victimsupport.org.uk

In the swim

FIR Communications Officer Gemma Pearson braved the Sheffield floods – ironically for a diving competition.

She entered six springboard events – at 1m, 3m and highboard – taking one gold, two silver and three bronze medals.

This was Gemma's final competition in preparation for the European masters in Slovenia next month.



● Kerrie Barkway ext 58883

WE are often asked about the force lottery and how it operates.

Essex Police Sports Association members are entitled to hold up to 25 tickets, each costing £1 a ticket.

The draw itself usually takes place on the last Wednesday of the month – an electronic program selects the numbers at random.

If your number wins one month, it has the same chance of winning again the next month; it's just all down to the luck of the draw!

The prizes are usually cash – £3,000 is the top prize – although twice a year, in June and December, we hold a super draw.

The June draw usually features a small car, the Christmas draw a larger model.

● If you don't already hold lottery tickets, or would like to increase your allocation, contact John Mackenzie at the EPSA, preferably by email or on ext 58885

A healthy boost for crime-fighting



● Back row, from left: Eastern Divisional Commander Chief Supt Dave Hudson, PCSO Daniel Le Moine, PCSO Arrie Bygrave, PCSO Gaynor Foster and Colchester District Commander Chief Insp Adrian Coombs with, front, PCSO Clair McWilliams – all showing their support for National Bike Week

Picture courtesy of Colchester Borough Council

OFFICERS and staff across the force showed their support for National Bike Week.

Essex Police was keen to support last month's initiative due to the high number of bikes its personnel currently use to help tackle crime, nuisance and disorder.

The force has about 100 bikes, funded by Essex Police Authority, which are used mainly by our Neighbourhood Policing Teams to help fight crime, nuisance and disorder.

In Eastern Division, 26 officers and staff biked a total of 146 miles – an average of 5.6 miles each – to support Colchester 2020's (a strategic partnership) environmental drive and to reduce their carbon footprints.

They cycled to work at the town's police station in Southway from Layer, Wivenhoe, Highwoods and Shrub End.

Human Resources Officer Caroline Morgan cycled from her home in Blackheath for the first time.

"I will definitely do it again," she said. "I also think it is a nice way to unwind at the end of the day."

Eastern Division's Chief Supt Dave Hudson cycled from his home in Frinton to Clacton police station for a ceremonial visit from the High Sheriff of Essex, Jennifer Tolhurst.

He said: "This was about trying to change people's habits and heighten awareness around the potential for cycling to work."

"There are a number of benefits which include health, fitness and reducing our carbon footprint."

Detectives, PCSOs and support staff from across north Essex took part in the event – the strategic partnership green



● Pcs Richard Barwell, left, and Lee Pudney outside South Ockendon Police Station

Picture by Bill Stock

scheme aims to slash traffic snarl ups and reduce carbon footprints by encouraging people to cycle to work.

And Eastern has won £325 from Colchester 2020 to spend on promoting cycling within the division.

Elsewhere Pcs Richard Barwell, 33, Lee Pudney, 28, and Rick Matthews, 32, saddle up every working day, come rain or shine and don't mind the quips from their colleagues whenever they arrive at work 'looking like drowned rats'.

The three friends who are all tutors on the same shift at South-Western Division's Professional Development Unit, based at South Ockendon Police Station, also ride

hundreds of miles a month in their spare time on a variety of mountain bikes or road race cycles.

The three tutors, who train new Pcs, were delighted with the response from Essex Police to National Bike Week and the Cycle To Work promotion and are keen to encourage more people to ride to work, at work and outside work.

And commuters and schoolchildren in Hockley were joined by Pc Steve Joynes and PCSO Andy Hill on their bikes.

The pair used it as an opportunity to give out information on cycle security and safety and offered postcoding for bicycles, too.

Dangers of the 'knife culture'

IN a case which 'starkly illustrates the dangers of the knife culture' a Basildon man has been found guilty of murder.

A jury at Basildon Crown Court decided unanimously that Gary Rosier, 46, had murdered Jay Clarke on September 22 last year. He is due to be sentenced on July 13.

The court heard that Mr Clarke had had a relatively minor argument with a member of Rosier's family and Rosier then went into Basildon town centre carrying a knife. He stabbed Mr Clark once in the chest and Mr Clark died soon afterwards.

Mr Clark, 30, was described by his family as 'larger than life'. He was stabbed on his son's second birthday.

After the verdict, Senior Investigating Officer Det Supt Tim Wills said: "This case starkly illustrates the dangers of the knife culture."

"Jay Clarke, the father of a young child, died at the hands of Gary Rosier, a violent man who was seeking retribution.

"Our thoughts and sympathy are with the family of Jay Clarke who have to live with the consequences of this act of mindless violence."

Det Supt Wills thanked witnesses for coming forward and also his staff, 'who worked tirelessly' to secure a conviction.

SIO helps Spanish police to get a result

by Heather Watts

EX-pat Jacqueline Moore probably thought she was on safe ground when she told someone about the murder of her husband Raymond, a steeplejack from Southend.

But she should have chosen her confidante more carefully.

It set in motion a chain of events which led to her being jailed for life after an Essex Police investigation.

Jacqueline's confidante repeated the claim to a national journalist, who was determined to follow up the story.

Jacqueline and her husband Raymond had moved from Southend to the Cartagena



● Det Supt Kevin Macey, now of the Major Crime Review Team, with members of the Spanish Guardia Civil

area of Spain in 2000.

The reporter posed as a 'bad lot' and went to Spain to befriend Jacqueline, who boasted that she had killed her husband in a violent brawl in October 2002.

The reporter had a story that would make national headlines but knew that justice had to be done and reported the crime to the Metropolitan Police, who

passed the case on to Essex.

Rayleigh Major Investigation Team (MIT) began their inquiries into Raymond's disappearance in March 2004.

The team spoke to a number of significant witnesses in this country and collected exhibits.

Senior Investigating Officer Det Supt Kevin Macey shared the evidence with the Spanish Guardia Civil and

travelled to Spain to assist them for a week.

Jacqueline and her 20-year-old son George Ross were arrested in Spain in May 2004, just two months after the start of the Rayleigh MIT investigation.

It transpired that Raymond had been kicked, beaten and suffocated to death in a violent brawl between the three of them.

Jacqueline had then buried her husband's body in the garden but later dug up the remains to cut them up and burn the pieces on a barbeque before they were scattered.

Jacqueline and George both remained on remand in prison in Spain for three years before being tried in a Spanish court in May.

Jacqueline was found guilty of Raymond's murder and sentenced to life imprisonment while George was convicted of assault.

Arrests made during crime reduction initiative

A CRIME reduction initiative in Maldon resulted in a number of people being arrested and prosecuted for motoring offences.

Officers carried out the operation at the end of May in a bid to reduce the number of thefts from industrial premises in Heybridge.

Road checks were set up with the aim

of deterring thieves and gathering intelligence. Officers were joined by PCSOs and Specials so there would be no impact on routine police services.

Maldon District Commander Chief Insp Craig Robertson said the operation had resulted in the gathering of a great deal of intelligence and there were no arrests during the week.

Over the two days, a total of 197 vehicles were stopped and a third of those drivers were prosecuted for offences such as drink-driving, failure to wear a seat belt and mobile telephone use.

Chief Insp Robertson added: "This is a staggering number, given that the operation was mounted to prevent and detect crime, not to discover traffic offences."

BATS help in the fight against crime

INTELLIGENCE-led policing will receive a boost with the introduction of the new Briefing and Tasking System (BATS)

As a result of the new system, which is to be rolled out across the force, front-line staff will receive briefing items which are specific to the area they police.

Following Divisional Intelligence Unit (DIU) restructuring later this year, each DIU will have a dedicated Briefing and Tasking Officer, whose role will be to keep BATS up to date with the very latest intelligence.

And changes aimed at speeding up the process of qualifying CID61s will take effect, enabling policing activity to be truly intelligence-led.

BATS will also provide a direct link to the Intelligence system, enabling an officer to submit a CID61 of their own, while still in BATS.

BATS is to be installed in South-Western Division later this month – roll-out to the rest of the force is planned next month.

BAT Officer Nigel Bowden, of South-Western DIU, has been testing the new system and believes front-line staff will notice significant improvement.

He said: "BATS has the ability to put briefings out to an individual officer, section or division. It will cut down on the amount of time officers will have to spend looking through irrelevant briefings and officers can be more specific with their patrolling activities."