

# The Law



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Bike patrols will increase visibility and help to reduce crime

## OFFICERS GET BACK ON THEIR BICYCLES

by Jenna Smith

**THE force is going back to traditional policing with the use of more bicycles.**

And more police officers on bicycles will be seen across Essex following the launch of Operation Velo.

Launched by temporary Chief Constable Andy Bliss on July 1 in Chelmsford town centre, Operation Velo marks the start of a significant increase in the number of bike patrols in the county this month and next.

Mr Bliss believes using some traditional policing methods will have a significant impact.

He said: "By returning to the bike patrols of 40 or 50 years ago, we are giving the people what they want, more visible policing."

"Our bike patrols will have such a positive impact on policing in Essex – local officers will be more accessible and using bicycles will help us to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour as well as our carbon footprint."

"Officers will be able to respond to incidents more quickly than if they were on foot and access places that police cars cannot necessarily get to while providing an increased police presence in all neighbourhoods throughout the county."

The operation kicked off with Mr Bliss and Supt Ewen Wilson, head of HQ Territorial Policing, demonstrating how Essex Police will be 'going back in time'.

Mr Bliss was riding an up-to-date police bicycle while Supt Wilson was on an original 1960s police bicycle, dressed in traditional 1960s police uniform.

Together, they cycled into Market Square in Chelmsford, where they were met by more officers on bicycles to mark the start of the operation.

Over the past three years, the force has increased its number of bicycles to 200 and 300 officers are already fully trained to ride bikes safely. During the operation, another 100 officers will be trained.

Operation Velo will also involve officers promoting rider safety, particularly for young people, at a number of safe-cycling events throughout the county and offering advice to cyclists on how to keep their bikes safe and secure.

They will also provide bike security-marking services.

During the operation, which runs until August 31, members of the public will be encouraged to take pictures of officers on their bicycles and enter them into a draw to win a mountain bike.

For more, visit [www.essex.police.uk/opvelo](http://www.essex.police.uk/opvelo)



● Supt Ewen Wilson, head of HQ Territorial Policing, and DCC Andy Bliss launch Operation Velo

Picture by Pru Kingham

# Aviation Security Team is getting to know its patch

THE job of the Aviation Security Team at Stansted Airport is to provide community engagement, as well as ensuring the security of flights arriving at the airport.

This engagement is part of a national strategy set up by the Government for patrolling areas under flight paths and around airports.

The team of six, headed by acting Insp Ian Wakefield, is arranging talks with local parish representatives to make sure that residents living in the vicinity of the airport are aware of issues surrounding aviation security.

Pc Richard McDade said: "We want to encourage local people to work with us as we know that those people who live or work around the airport and in the surrounding area can be an invaluable source of information."

Team members are attending local

meetings and giving presentations.

And, in order to help build stronger links with their community, the team has been leafleting members of the public and then following up with a visit from one of the team a few weeks later.

● The Aviation Security Team is also giving presentations to police officers and staff about its role.

Contact the team at Stansted Airport police station on ext 22132

● THE Stansted Airport Neighbourhood Policing Team is hosting area coffee mornings, helping to establish links with the local community.

Businesses located in and around the airport are invited to 'drop in for a cuppa' - giving everyone an opportunity to express their views on issues which matter most to them.

Coffee mornings are held each month in the Atrium of Enterprise House at Stansted Airport.



● Pc Richard McDade, PCSO George Shepherd, Pc Richard Hester, Pc Lisa Woricker, acting Insp Ian Wakefield, Pc Glen Higbee, Pc Stewart Willis and Pc Kirsty Thomas-Unger. Not pictured is PCSO Danielle Rushton-Hickman

## A record year for the Essex Police Museum

A RECORD number of people visited Essex Police Museum last year.

During 2008/09, the museum at HQ attracted 8,140 visitors, compared with 5,498 the previous year.

Curator Becky Wash said: "The public response has been incredible. We've continued to improve our displays throughout the year and the children's holiday events are more successful than ever."

And 270 people visited the museum - to make their own police boxes - during the May half-term holiday this year, the highest attendance at a craft activity so far.

To continue the success, the museum has put together a new travelling exhibition about the history of the force.

● The mobile exhibition can be booked for special events and by libraries. Contact Mrs Wash on ext 50771, on 01245 457 150 or via email at [museum@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:museum@essex.pnn.police.uk)

● A list of summer events can be found on the museum website at [www.essex.police.uk/museum](http://www.essex.police.uk/museum)

## Hero's visit

AN elderly man was able to thank the teenager who intervened when he was targeted by thieves in Braintree.

Dc Gary Sainty arranged for the two men to meet at Braintree police station and thanked 18-year-old Shaun Savill himself.

"This is an excellent example of the community working together with Essex Police to bring the offenders to justice," he said.

# Supporting national Bike Week

## POLICE officers and staff rose to the challenge of national Bike Week in various ways.

Cycling into work, cycling in their spare time and raising money for charity whilst they did it - many did their bit.

● In Western Division officers and staff took part in a series of bike rides organised by Harlow Cycle Tour Club.

Alongside members of the public and councillors, officers joined in with sections of the cycle ride as part of their patrols.

PCSO Louise Webb said: "It was a brilliant opportunity to engage with members of our community in a fun way whilst on patrol."

● At HQ, people were asked to leave their cars at home and cycle into work. With the good weather and lack of parking it was a great opportunity to get into the habit of cycling to work and several took up the chance.

● South Eastern Division held a charity bike ride to raise money for the Help for Heroes charity.

● Officers at Stansted Airport raised more than £400 attempting to cycle and run Around The World In A Day.

They took turns to cycle and run non-stop for six hours, managing to clock up 156 miles between them - raising more than £400 for Newlife, a local charity which supplies disabled children with emergency equipment

at short notice.

Pc Trevor James said: "We wanted to raise much-needed funds for this great local charity but we also wanted to promote cycling in terms of policing.

"Being out on the police bikes is a great way for us to engage with the community and reduce crime."

● Spectators who flocked into Colchester town centre to watch cyclists in the Tour Series also took up the offer of making their bicycles and mobile phones safer.

PCSOs and crime reduction officer Colin Stiff security-coded 45 bikes and 75 phones.

● And PCSOs in Rochford took delivery of a new Vauxhall Corsa which will help them get to the heart of their communities - it is fitted with a retractable cycle rack so they can be dropped off in their neighbourhoods, together with their bikes.

Sgt Lawrence Horn, of Rochford Neighbourhood Policing Team, said: "PCSOs represent a reassuring presence to the public.

"This will enable them to spend more time on the street, building up contacts and a detailed knowledge of the issues residents are concerned about in their area."



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# Poignant visit 25 years after husband murdered on duty

THE 25th anniversary of an American charity for survivors of police officers killed on duty was a truly poignant one for Sue Bishop.

Because it will be 25 years ago next month that her husband, acting sergeant Brian Bishop, known as Bill, was shot in Frinton while trying to arrest an armed robber.

His death prompted the foundation of the The Essex Police Memorial Trust.

Concerns of Police Survivors was started up in Washington DC in 1984 and a memorial week is held each May. Seven years ago, UK officers attended the week and in 2003 the Care of Police Survivors (COPS) charity was born.

Mrs Bishop was invited to join COPS in 2004 and this year she decided to join the group attending the memorial week in Washington DC.

They visited the National Police Memorial wall which has a section for UK survivors, with photographs and details of loved ones.

Mrs Bishop said the wall included a picture of Sgt Bob Walsham, who died last year, and who had been her son David's sergeant.

A blue rose was placed against each photograph and Mrs Bishop placed an Essex Police jumper patch against her husband's picture.

During the week, the UK COPS group visited the White House, the Pentagon, the Monument building, Arlington Cemetery, the Lincoln Memorial and the Capitol Hill building.

Four English officers joined a Unity Tour

● The memorials to Sgt Bob Walsham and acting Sgt Bill Bishop



fund-raising cycle ride to raise money for COPS in the UK.

Mrs Bishop said of the last night: "It was the most emotional of all. A candlelit vigil was held at the memorial."

Survivors of US officers killed in the preceding 12 months were brought in by coach and joined the friends and relatives of the rest of the survivors for a short service.

● For more information about the Essex Police Memorial Trust, visit [www.essex.police.uk/memorial](http://www.essex.police.uk/memorial)

● For more information about Care of Police Survivors, visit [www.ukcops.org](http://www.ukcops.org)

## Get ready to 'grab' this in an emergency

ESSEX Resilience Forum is urging the public to be prepared for an emergency and have a 'grab bag'.

Being prepared makes a big difference in the event of a fire, extreme weather, a major accident, a gas leak or snow.

Head of Media Claire Ziwa, chair of the warning and informing support group, said:

"It's very important people are prepared for emergencies. Having essentials ready gives added peace of mind."

Items to include: prescription medicine details, toiletries, identity documents, first aid kit, radio, torch and batteries, notebook and pencil, spare glasses, mobile phone charger, insurance details, spare keys.

## Intelligence conference is 'a credit' to the force

AN international police conference aimed at gathering and sharing information to prevent and combat cross-border crime has been held in Essex.

ACC Peter Lowton chaired last month's annual Cross-Channel Intelligence Conference (CCIC), attended by those police forces from England, Holland, France and Belgium which border the English Channel.

Mr Lowton said: "The conference is a very useful and effective way for police forces and partner agencies on both sides of the English Channel to share information and this year's event continued that success."

"The relationships we have forged over the years mean that we have developed methods to help us combat and prevent all types of cross-border crime."

"We are constantly developing new ways of sharing information which means that criminals are finding it increasingly hard to avoid justice."

The conference's keynote speaker was Grayling Williams, from the USA's Drugs Enforcement Administration, who told delegates how the DEA operates across borders and manages the challenges that CCIC members face in Europe.

Det Supt Tim Raymond, the force's director of intelligence, accompanied Mr Lowton to the conference, which has been running for 44 years.

He said: "Initial feedback from our partners suggests it was one of the most successful conferences and was a great credit to Essex Police."

## Annual report is landing on your doorstep

**POLICING Essex** is this year's annual report, which is currently being delivered to every home in Essex.

The report showcases good news stories from the 2008/09 policing year and provides important information for the public.

The annual report has been localised for each of the 14 policing districts in the county and includes a district policing summary, which includes good news, a message from the district commander and neighbourhood policing contact information.

Although every home in Essex should receive a copy of the leaflet, there are some extra copies available, in case any member of the public misses out.

• If you are asked for a copy of *Policing Essex*, Essex Police Authority press and PR officer Jenna Smith can supply one on ext 50637 or 01245 457223 or via email at [jenna.smith@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:jenna.smith@essex.pnn.police.uk) or it can be viewed at [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk)



# All change for Chief Officers

FOLLOWING the retirement of Chief Constable Roger Baker, changes have been made to the force's Chief Officer team.

DCC Andy Bliss officially took over as temporary Chief Constable on Monday, July 6.

ACCs Derek Benson and Peter Lowton will become

temporary DCCs for designated periods of time during the summer.

ACC Sue Harrison remains in charge of Operational Support and the responsibilities of Operation APEX programme director Rick Tazzini and acting director of Finance and Administration Ken Cocksedge

will not change.

Meanwhile, South Western divisional commander Chief Supt Maurice Mason, pictured left, has been promoted to temporary ACC.

Interviews for the new Chief Constable will be conducted by Essex Police Authority later this year.



● Natalie Watkins, Derek Sewell and Pc Hayley Cawston practice their first aid techniques

Picture by Heather Turner

# First aiders rise to the occasion ... twice

**FIRST aiders at Essex Police College had an eventful weekend when they were called out to help with not one but two first aid incidents.**

Emergency first aid was given to a pensioner found collapsed in her back garden on Saturday, June 5, and the following day a cadet candidate was taken ill.

While out jogging round HQ sports field, student officer Pc Hayley Cawston spotted the pensioner, in her 80s, lying at her back gate and raised the alarm.

Initial Police Learning Development Programme trainer Natalie Watkins rushed over with her students and dealt with the situation.

The woman had fractured her arm,

injured her shoulder, suffered cuts and bruising and was shocked.

An ambulance was called, the woman's shopping unpacked and her cat taken care of so she didn't have to worry while she was in hospital.

The next day, learning and development manager Nichola Hurley had to call for Natalie and physical training instructor Derek Sewell to help when one of her police cadet candidates felt dizzy and faint and was very sick.

Natalie and Derek administered first aid and oxygen before the candidate's parents were called and advised to take him to see his doctor.

Nichola said: "Again, they did an excellent job. I thank them both for stepping forward as first aiders. Because of their efforts, both members of public are fine."

NATALIE Watkins has been first-aid trained for 15 years and wanted to keep the skill when she joined the force six years ago as a service desk assistant – she became the designated first aider for Braintree police station.

She then began training first aid on division and continued to train – mostly student officers, special constables and PCSOs – when she transferred to Essex Police College. Now she is a member of the force's first aid competition team.

Natalie said: "I think first aid is vital for all members of staff, not only for giving first aid to colleagues but also for being able to provide first aid to members of the public, family and friends."

"First Aid is a vital subject to know and the weekend proved that. We were able to give a good service to members of the public, which in turn improves public confidence in the police."

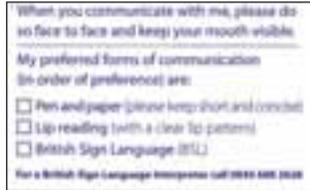
DEREK Sewell has been a first aid trainer for more than 20 years, becoming interested when he was a police officer and having to carry out first aid on several occasions.

In the early days he was put off because he could not tie a reef knot – for bandages – but then discovered there was far more to first aid than knots.

Derek now teaches first aid to outside organisations, including offenders at the Essex Senior Attendance Centre run by HM Prison Service.

He is First Aid At Work-appointed and, as a physical training instructor, uses his knowledge to deal with any injury or illness.

"I think everyone ought to learn some sort of basic first aid because there is a very high chance that at some stage during our lives we will come across some occurrence where first aid is needed," he said.



## Deaf people can text in with their emergencies

THE force has introduced a new emergency text service for the deaf, hard of hearing and speech-impaired.

Now, instead of ringing 999 in an emergency, they can text a message to 07624 800102 and receive a similar priority service.

However, members of the public must register to use the service, which is designed for those who are d/deaf – an all-encompassing term to denote everyone with a hearing-related disability – and/or speech-impaired.

Anyone wishing to register for the emergency text service can do so by:

- filling in a form online – visit [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk) and click on the Text Messaging link under How To Contact Us on the front page
- contacting the Essex Police switchboard on 0300 333 4444 and asking for an emergency text registration form
- visiting their local police station front office and asking for one.

Once registered, they will receive a special ID card, sponsored by Essex Police Authority.

The card, pictured above, states the condition its bearer has and their preferred form of communication, as well as details of how to contact Essex Police.

Police officers and staff should be aware of these cards as d/deaf members of the public are being advised to present them when talking to the police.

The force worked closely with the Royal Association for Deaf People (RAD) and liaised with The Royal National Institute for Deaf People (RNID) to set up the service.

## Lottery winner loses to POCA

A FORMER National Lottery winner convicted of cannabis production has been ordered to pay a confiscation order of £101,280.

Convicted cannabis producer Richard Storey was ordered to pay the amount under the Proceeds of Crime Act within 12 months or face a further three years in jail.

Storey, of Ramsden Bellhouse, was jailed for 20 months in February after police had executed a search warrant at his home and discovered he was growing and selling cannabis.



## Unison news by Mike Frost



### Unison recommends keeping TRiM

WHEN you take a job in one of the emergency services, you know that there are times when it may well be stressful, even traumatic.

Essex Police is no exception. Whether you work on the streets of the county or in a back office role, you may not be immune from that possibility.

So what support is available to you, if you find it's 'one of those times' when life is a bit less than easy?

The first thing is to understand that everyone has days like that.

It doesn't matter how senior or junior you are, what you earn, or what your job is. Everybody has times when they can cope with almost anything and times when life just throws too much at them. Often the circumstances will be beyond your normal experience.

Everyone is different too. So, what affects one person may not affect another in the same way. But what does matter is that you, as an individual, recognise when you are at a low ebb and do something positive about it.

Some years ago, the British military took a system known as 'peer counselling' and developed a less invasive technique known as TRiM, short for Trauma Risk Management.

Essex Police is now training colleagues throughout the force to make this very valuable assessment tool available to anyone who experiences personal trauma at work.

Basically, TRiM is for you if, for any reason, you feel an event has happened to you in your working life that is causing you a level of discomfort and stress which you are not happy about.

Perhaps you have had to deal with an incident that has deeply touched your emotions or with which you have become more personally involved than you would have wished in a professional sense?

As a result, possibly you are unusually emotional or have lost your appetite. Maybe you have trouble sleeping, find yourself 'busy-minding' in the wee small hours or are just unreasonably bad tempered, moody or tearful?

Things like this can affect our relationships at work as well as at home. Sometimes other people, including loved ones, find it hard to understand and can react in ways that you see as less than caring.

Maybe you feel you are just not as in control of your life as you would like to be. Life can be very hard at times like that.

When this happens to you, a TRiM assessment can be a big help.

The assessment consists of a meeting in a safe environment, with a trained colleague you can trust. Together you will talk about the incident and its potential impact and complete a short questionnaire.

As a result, very often you will find that because you have a better understanding of what is happening to you, you will feel very much better and can develop strategies that allow you to get back on top form.

Maybe you will need a bit of active and appropriate support for a while and a TRiM assessment can make that happen.

In any case, you will lose absolutely nothing and may well gain a lot.

Is it confidential? Of course it is. If there were any doubts, Unison would not be supporting this initiative.

It is entirely confidential and you remain in full control all of the time. You may decide to do nothing, you may seek help from your GP or you may refer yourself to one of the services available through the force Occupational Health and Welfare scheme – what you decide to do is entirely up to you.

● To find out more about volunteering to train as a force TRiM practitioner or to seek to benefit from a TRiM assessment, contact Unison at HQ on ext 55013 or Vickie Bond or Gill Costello on the force Welfare team on ext 58604 / 5

● Further information can be found on the Occupational Health and Welfare intranet pages – click on HR Department under Divisions & Departments on the intranet Site Directory, then on Occ Health & Welfare and then on Trauma Risk Management

Anyone can need a lift in life once in a while. If you do, Unison recommends you get TRiM!

## Federation news by Roy Scanes



### Musical chairs – all change at the top

THIS year's Police Federation Conference was a rarity. We listened to the same Home Secretary, Jacqui Smith, as we did at the previous year's conference – almost unheard of in modern times.

However, it wasn't to last and soon after the final representative had left Bournemouth, the music stopped playing and there was a fight for key ministerial policing jobs.

Firstly, Alan Johnson succeeded Jacqui Smith as Home Secretary.

A former postman, Mr Johnson served as a former general secretary of the Communication Workers Union and is one of the largest trade union names to have entered Parliament in recent decades.

He is often credited with the much-coveted tag of being an 'ordinary bloke' but we are still to make that judgement.

In July 2006 whilst Education Secretary, Mr Johnson outlined plans to further increase headteachers' powers – maybe he will consider giving Chief Constables back their discretion and power to police their areas as the public request.

Mr Johnson has said in the past: "We've cut overall crime by 35 per cent, we've got record police numbers, the introduction of anti-social behaviour measures, street wardens, CCTV, many other initiatives, have been extremely successful, but we need to go much further."

Watch this space but, given the recent 'revolving door' in the Home Office, I don't think we will be seeing Mr Johnson at next year's conference.

Another change at the top is that of the Minister for Crime and Policing, where David Hanson replaced Vernon Coaker during the last Cabinet reshuffle.

He previously worked at the Ministry of Justice with responsibility for issues including

the oversight of criminal law, prisons and probation.

In December 2007, he defended the Government's plans to build 'Titan' prisons that could hold up to 2,500 inmates.

Now, what do we in Essex Police have in store for us after Sunday, July 5?

Four years ago, Roger Baker took over the helm as Chief Constable of Essex Police.

Mr Baker had a vision that every police officer in this country could relate to.

We were going to drive down crime and lock up more offenders.

I once described him as an 'response car driver in a Chief Constable's uniform'. And the phrase "If you intend to commit crime in Essex, bring your toothbrush" became legendary.

However, with every change of management we get a change of working practices. Every new manager wants to stamp their vision of how the organisation can improve.

Mr Baker was no different. His vision has changed how Essex Police does business.

Statistically, crime has reduced, detections have increased, every victim of crime is seeing a police officer face to face and public confidence has risen.

These changes were not without their problems. But we have survived the pain and many believe we are better for it.

What will now happen with the appointment of a new Chief Constable? Well believe me, there will be change yet again.

The new Chief Constable will want to stamp their vision on Essex Police.

I have therefore cancelled the annual leave of all Federation representatives for the coming year.

Seriously though, whatever you think of Mr Baker and, by the time he reads this, he will be 'Mister' Baker, I would like to wish him and his wife a very long, healthy and happy retirement.

## Disability Network news

by Denise Chaplin



THE Disability Network enjoyed a very successful AGM at the Towerlands complex in Braintree, attended by almost 50 members and representatives from community partners.

No executive committee posts were contested but the role of media and PR officer needed to be filled, following the resignation of Kathy Holloway.

Appointments were made and confirmed as follows: Chair Tony Boothman; vice-chair Sgt Tim Mariner; dyslexia liaison Louise Linnell-Williams; media and PR Jean Steele; disability awareness Gwyneth Brown; social secretary Jan Mason. I continue as network co-ordinator as this is an employed post and so is not subject to annual voting.

A report from each of the executive committee members present covered the network's achievements of the past year, which included:

- the continued success of the Buddy scheme
- good community links with numerous charities and organisations including Autism Anglia, Down Syndrome charity extra 21, Epilepsy Action, Dyslexia Rooms and Disability Essex
- close work with Dyslexia Rooms to enable us to monitor the progress of the staff and officers we refer to them for assessment and support
- network monthly inputs on the probationer and core leadership courses and at Essex Police College and PCSO open days
- drop-in days at Central and Eastern divisions
- Working with Occupational Health and Diversity Unit staff and the network disability awareness officer; we have promoted health awareness campaigns relating to disability issues
- Disability Network representation at the Essex Connects conference
- Supporting and attending the launch of the Autism Alert card in Hampshire, Norfolk and Cambridgeshire – the network continues to promote awareness of this card throughout the force and has arranged for the production of aides memoire to be sent to every operational officer and front-line member of staff
- assisting with a number of member welfare issues
- maintaining links with Access to Work, including liaison with one of its main

workplace assessors to ensure more understanding, on both sides, of the processes involved

- production of posters and z-cards in conjunction with the Royal Association for Deaf people to increase awareness of deaf issues
- a forcewide dyslexia awareness campaign by way of a screensaver, posters and leaflets
- organised an assistive technology information day in force, with the help of IT
- established force links with the British Dyslexia association and attended a number of its conferences.

Speakers at the AGM included Ruth Gravelle, from Dyslexia Rooms, who interviewed Tim Mariner about his experiences as an officer and coping with dyslexia in general.

Neela Hibbert, chair of the Strategic Independent Advisory Group (IAG), and Insp Ian Carter gave a talk about the work and the role of the IAG – as a "critical friend" of the police – which represents all strands of diversity within the communities we serve.

The group was also entertained and amused by a fantastic and inspirational talk by Paralympian gold medallist Dan Bentley.

Dan won gold for boccia – similar to bowls and petanque – and he challenged Tony Boothman to a game during the afternoon. Dan was accompanied by Essex Police Special Constabulary Assistant Chief Officer Lynette Flint, who trains him.

A short workshop was held to discuss the roles of the executive committee and what is expected of members – the feedback from this will be discussed at the next Disability Network meeting, due to be held on Monday, August 3, at 10am in HQ Sports Pavilion.

And the AGM also saw the launch of the new awareness leaflet produced for Essex Police by Epilepsy Action. An electronic version of this can be found by visiting the Equality and Diversity intranet site – listed on the intranet Site Directory's Information menu – then click on Disability and scroll down to Advice and Facilities to find Epilepsy - Guidelines for the police.

The day was closed by ACC Sue Harrison who spoke about the network's success and thanked all members and executive committee for the hard work, time and effort they contribute to this work.



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## Corner the chairman



● Essex Police Authority chairman

Robert Chambers

## Bidding fond farewell to Roger Baker

“AS you are all aware, Chief Constable Roger Baker retired this month from Essex Police.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all that he has done. I had the pleasure of appointing Mr Baker as Chief Constable in 2005 and since then he has been instrumental in making Essex the best police force in the country.

He has led the force in reducing crime and disorder, thus making the county even safer. I have no doubt that this has had a very positive impact on the lives of those who live, work or visit our county. He has also helped to make the relationship between Essex Police and Essex Police Authority, stronger than ever, for which I am grateful.

Mr Baker has also been key in giving the public what they want – more officers back on the streets – by introducing Operation APEX.

This operation will continue, with the aim of putting an additional 600 officers on our streets by 2013.

I strongly believe that Mr Baker's legacy will live on here at Essex Police for many years to come.”

## Putting a 'face' to youth team

UTTLESFORD Youth Team officers have created their own Facebook page to reach out to young people.

Joining partnership and youth sergeant Lindsay Beckman online are Safer Schools Partnership officers Pc Kathryn Nessling and Pc Ryan McNamara, and youth officer Pc Lisa Cox.

Sgt Beckman said social networking sites were integral to the way young people communicated.

“Our Facebook site will provide youngsters with a safe and easy way for a young person to ask a question, ask for support or report an incident that's concerning them.”

The Facebook site includes videos with information about bullying, drugs and knife crime and Legal Line, which explains what happens when someone is arrested and what their rights are.

# Roadshows become fun days

ESSEX Police's ten-date anti-knives, bullying, alcohol and drugs roadshow for young people has packed up for another year. But the 2SMART message will continue to be spread round the county at special fun days. The 2SMART team has visited Shoebury Fair and two 2SMART fun days are due to be held at the end of this month – at The Common, Saffron Walden, on Friday, July 24 and at Braintree Rugby Club on Saturday, July 25. This year 14,400 young people from 98 schools saw a total of 30 hours of roadshows. Insp Kevin Whipps, head of the force's Children and Young People's Team, said: “This year's 2SMART has exceeded expectations in terms of numbers and engagement with schools.

“The talent we have on stage is fantastic, giving the young people in the audience some

great role models to look up to and admire.

“These role models are in a perfect position to give young people important messages about knives, bullying, alcohol and drugs in a way that young people will understand and take on board.

“Now we are really looking forward to the 2SMART fun days. It is always important for us to keep finding ways to engage with young people so that we can build a relationship with them that will stay with them throughout their lives.”

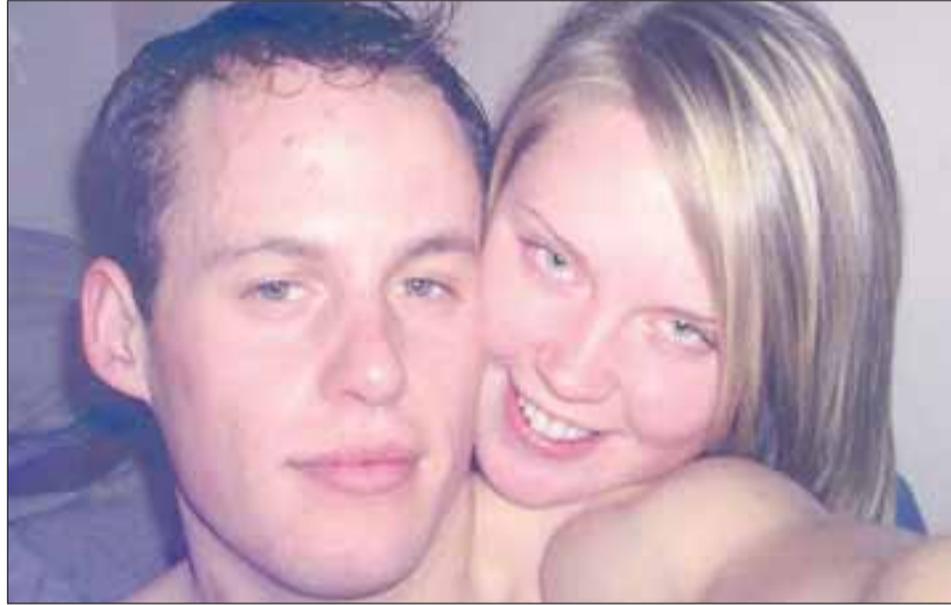
Insp Whipps thanked officers, police staff and police cadets who supported the 2SMART roadshows,

● The force's TV and New Media Unit films at every roadshow location – to view the videos visit [www.2smart.co.uk](http://www.2smart.co.uk) and click on roadshow



● Essex FM presenter Dom Atkins talks to Essex Police cadets on stage at one of this year's 2SMART roadshows

Picture by Paul Tait



● Alan Reilly and his girlfriend Rachel Murphy. He was stabbed to death by a teenager just months before his baby son was born

# 'Dangers of knives and drug-dealing'

**THE dangers of knife-carrying and drug-dealing have been highlighted after an east London teenager was found guilty of murdering a man from mid-Essex.**

Alan Reilly, 25, from Silver End, was stabbed in nearby Bocking in April last year. A 17-year-old from Hackney was arrested and charged with his murder.

Following a three-and-a-half week trial last month, the student was found guilty of murder. The court also heard how he had been dealing drugs in the Braintree area in the months preceding Mr Reilly's stabbing. The youth is due to be sentenced later this month at Chelmsford Crown Court.

After the trial, senior investigating officer Det Supt John Quinton said the verdict offered “a very stark warning to everyone who chooses to carry a knife in public and those who choose to deal in drugs”.

Mr Reilly's girlfriend Rachel Murphy, 22, gave birth to the couple's baby son just a few months after his death.

Det Supt Quinton said: “The opportunity to become a proud father was taken away from him by a teenage boy who had decided on a career in criminality at such a young age. He now faces the prospect of a large chunk of his life being behind bars.

“Again, I urge all parents to face up to their responsibilities as guardians.”

Residents on the estate where Mr Reilly died were

by Nishan Wijeratne

also praised by Det Supt Quinton for their co-operation in the murder investigation. “They themselves have shown that Neighbourhood Policing works, having built up an excellent rapport with the police officers and PCSOs who patrol the estate,” he said.

Miss Murphy said she wanted to tell everyone to take a stand against knife crime.

She added: “I would like to thank Essex Police for their unwavering support from the very beginning. Despite Alan's criminal past, they have never once showed anything but a caring, sharing attitude as well as devotion and determination in bringing Alan's killer to justice.

“Both Mr Quinton and Matt Parker, my family liaison officer, have shown Alan's family and I respect, and I thank them for this.”

Braintree district commander Chief Insp Alan Gooden said the community had been shocked by Mr Reilly's murder.

He said that, at the time, officers had been in the intelligence-gathering stage of Operation Noggin, which provided information for the murder investigation and also later led to many people being prosecuted for drugs offences in and around Braintree.

“Neighbourhood Policing is working as more and more people connect with us and tell us about criminal behaviour that is affecting their lives,” added Chief Insp Gooden.

## Joint rogue trader work praised Prolific shoplifters targeted

A NEIGHBOURHOOD Watch co-ordinator has been praised by Trading Standards for his enthusiasm and dedication to ridding Clacton of rogue traders.

Essex County Council Trading Standards officer Paul Harvey said many recent results in the area had been down to the hard work of Tendring Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator Paul Teague.

Mr Harvey said this had led to joint patrols by police officers and Trading

Standards staff and combined visits to victims of doorstep crime, which enabled the more effective sharing of the latest information, trends and intelligence.

No Cold-Calling Zones have been established in Clacton, Frinton and Walton – they feature signs declaring that rogue traders are not welcome.

● Residents should call Essex Police in an emergency on 999 or Trading Standards, for further advice and guidance, on 08454 040506

AN operation which brings shoplifters before the next available court is set to continue after its initial success.

PCSOs and plain-clothed police officers have been targeting prolific thieves in Clacton town centre as part of Operation Strew.

Neighbourhood specialist officer Pc Andy Aguda said police would follow up convictions with an ASBO application, which could result in the offender being prohibited from entering parts of the town centre.

In a very good start to the operation, police dealt with six of their original targets and found two people in possession of property they had just stolen.

They also issued two £80 fixed penalty notices to people caught shoplifting by shop staff, a caution and a final warning.

## Traders still selling knives to teenagers

THE force continues its commitment to preventing the sale of knives to under-18s. Working with Essex Trading Standards staff, police officers have been visiting retailers across the county who have previously been found to have sold knives to youngsters below the age limit.

They conducted further test-purchasing operations, using volunteers, to discover whether retailers asked them for identification when they tried to buy a knife. Five stores out of 40 stores visited failed and the cashier sold a knife to a volunteer.

Each offence is being investigated and prosecutions may follow.

It is an offence to sell a knife, knife blade, razor blade, axe or any sharp instrument to anyone under 18, according to the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006.

Since Essex was included in the Home Office's Tackling Knives Action Programme in June 2007, retailers across the county have been warned they could face “mystery shopper” visits by under-age children.

Essex Police was included in the national programme in order to further the good work recognised by the Home Secretary through its 2SMART initiative.

Insp Kevin Whipps, head of the force's Children and Young People's Team, said: “We are committed to working hard to get knives and other weapons off Essex streets.

“We work with retailers to make sure all their cashiers know to ask for identification from anyone who appears under the age of 18. We regularly check they are maintaining these stringent checks and take action when there are lapses.

“We are pleased that Essex does not have a knife-crime problem, however we are not complacent and will do everything we can to make sure it stays that way.”

Peter Stratton, operational manager for Essex County Council Trading Standards, said: “The sale of knives to children is something that can affect the whole community, and the consequences can be devastating.

“Quite simply, we will not tolerate under-age knife sales, and the punishment will be severe for anyone caught doing so. We have done everything in our power to support and advise local businesses to help them prevent making under-age knife sales and it is about time they started taking this issue as seriously as we do.”



## Force rewards bright ideas with awards presentation

● Chief Constable Roger Baker chats with police cadets during his inspection of all 102 BTEC first diploma in parade at Essex Police College

● From Back Page Unit, witnessed officers losing their radio in the water, he identified a product which returned an item to the surface within 60 seconds. Mobile Support Division has now purchased several to attach to radios and boat keys, reducing replacement costs. Sgt Andrew Robson, of Rochford NPT, suggested the Force Objectives should be published on the intranet. PCSO Jojo Mitchell, of Grays North NPT, suggested that a special mannequin be used to engage with children at various events. It will be trialled in South Western Division.

### £40 awards

IT change and configuration manager Kim Karaçolak proposed a Microsoft Outlook calendar be made available on the Essex Police Sports Association website order to improve HQ Sports Pavilion bookings.

### £25 encouragement awards

Sgt Mark Galbraith, of Leigh (NPT): the electronic sickness reporting system should automatically send a reminder to the individual who had reported sick.

ORIGIN Self-Service already has an option to do this which may be implemented in the future.

Investigating officer Roy Tzack, who has now left the force: a *Getting The Best From CCTV* booklet to assist businesses in choosing the most appropriate CCTV.

The force architectural liaison officers were already drafting a similar leaflet.

Director of intelligence Supt Tim Raymond: scent marker be placed within cash-in-transit vehicles which, if released, would be identified more easily by police dogs.

The concept was supported but would require British Security Industry Association finance to undertake research and development.

Pc Adam Gardiner, of Weeley NPT: issuing metal-detecting wands to assist officers during stop searches. The Home Office later funded such wands for the force but not as a result of Adam's idea.

Pc Colin Ellis, of Basildon: retiring staff should receive a memento from the force in recognition of their service. This was felt to be a good idea but there was insufficient funding.

Pc Steve Judd, of Southend: British Sign Language (BSL) tuition be provided as part of training.

The proposal was supported but unfortunately insufficient time was available.

Rod Howell, of Communications Division: a marker be placed on STORM non-crime incidents to quickly identify actions required.

A STORM user-group meeting developed the proposal, improving the levels of service to the public.

Pc Andrew Bagley, of Chelmsford: identified confusion arising from orders from Family Courts and suggested a change to the marking to make it easier to identify different types of orders.

However, the orders are generated by a national, non-police system and no response has yet been received to the suggestion.

SSgt Dawn Burton, of Chelmsford: in Central Division, the PDU signs off special constables' (PDPs) so Dawn suggested that PDPs undertake an assessment of Specials completing their PDPs to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of special constables and their training.

● If you have a bright idea, why not submit it to the Force Suggestion Scheme and you could be a winner in 2010.

Email Force Suggestion Scheme or visit the intranet site – which is listed on the Information menu under the intranet Site Directory



Pictures by Bill Stock

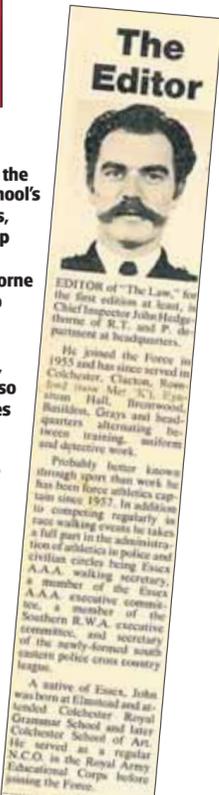


● Lyn Burch, far left, and Pat Campen identify themselves in a picture of the 1969 cadet netball team. The picture forms part of a display of the history of Essex Police College which will remain on view on the college's ground floor until the end of this year



● The 12 Essex Police cadets lead the students' march

● Right, the cadet school's first boss, Chief Insp John Hedgethorne was also the first editor of The Law, which also celebrates its 40th birthday this year



● Cadets learning and development manager Nichola Hurley, front row extreme left, with present-day first and second-year cadets plus former cadets and trainers from the first courses at the then cadet school in 1969



# Special parade to mark school's 40th anniversary

by Bill Stock

THE 40th anniversary of the establishment of Essex Police cadet school was commemorated at a special passing out parade which also brought together the class of 2009 and students and trainers from the first course in 1969.

And as the modern-day budding bobbies – from what is now Essex Police College – marched at the head of a parade, their counterparts from four decades ago took a stroll down Memory Lane and recalled the first intake at the cadet school.

In a speech to the hundreds of students and parents at the parade, Pat Campen, who was a cadet in 1969 and later returned to the college as a tutor, spoke fondly of the trainees and tutors on the first intake.

It was, she said, quite a year for firsts. She mentioned the first man on the moon, the first flight of Concorde and the first TV programmes in colour.

And then there was petrol at 'six shillings and tuppence' (31p) a gallon and the average house costing £5,000.

Pat paid tribute to the cadet school's first boss, Chief Insp John Hedgethorne, who was "an imposing and charismatic man", and "the firm but always fair" Insp Harry Fuller. She recalled the "ready for anything and jovial" physical training instructors Mike Dray and Larry Piper. Mr Fuller and Mr Dray were both among the guests at last month's parade.

"All cadets," said Pat, "experienced numerous and often previously unheard of sports such as Springfield football, race-walking and, of course, drill. I still can't pass a windmill without a small chuckle after all these years.

"I have no doubt that the values, determination, teamwork, confidence, discipline persistence, loyalty and respect that these inspirational men instilled in us have made us who and what we are today. I and so many other former cadets will always be grateful to them for that."

Although the cadet school closed in



● Police cadet of the year Joe Reynolds, centre, with best student Chloe Lingane, left, and most improved student April Worsley

12 Essex cadets some wise words of career advice before the parade.

And Chief Constable Roger, attending his final parade before retiring on July 5, inspected the ranks of cadets and students and spoke to them all individually.

The 12 current-day police cadets were joined on parade by 90 students from the college and the parade was a celebration of their finishing the BTEC First Diploma in Public Service, which took over from the PVC.

ACC Sue Harrison, who was a student on a PVC before joining Essex Police in 1983, was on hand to give the

outstanding individuals who will, I am sure at some stage, be looking after us in the public service.

"Forty years ago Prince Charles became the Prince of Wales and Lulu won the Eurovision Song Contest – I think that was probably the last time we managed to seize that award. And many things across this great country, this great United Kingdom of ours, have probably eroded since then.

"But one thing for me that hasn't eroded is the strength of the public sector. We are still the best in the world at public services.

"People come from all over the world to see the strength of our public services and they come because people like this. Our safety is in safe hands and what you have achieved, students, is something to be extremely proud about."

Mr Baker also introduced two new police dog puppies, Gunner and Diva, which were bought with a donation raised from sponsored events by students at Chelmsford College. The pups were paraded in front of the students and guests by their handlers.

Mr Baker also presented prizes to the top students on the BTEC course, among them April Worsley, who won an award for being the most improved student, and Chloe Lingane, who received the best student award. Cadet Joe Reynolds, who won the police cadet of the year award, will receive his prize in September.

After the parade, the massed students marched off behind police horses Bella and Biscuit.

Biscuit left his mark right in front of the VIPs, causing the cadets following to take avoiding action by marching slightly off course.

Later, cadets old and new, together with tutors from 1969, posed for a picture with Nichola Hurley, the force's learning and development manager for cadets, Specials and PCSOs, who arranged the whole event.

There was also a chance for the ex-cadets and tutors to chat about the good old days and also look at a display of pictures and newspaper cuttings from the early days of the cadet course.

Pat added: "It has been a fantastic day, a roller-coaster ride of happy memories and mixed emotions but it was a ride I wouldn't have missed for anything."

## Recognition for 'going the extra mile'

WE all work with people who go that extra mile in their job – wouldn't it be nice to take time out and give them the recognition they deserve?

Well, now you can because two award schemes are coming up which honour people working in the criminal justice system, including police officers and staff, Specials and other volunteers.

Anyone working or volunteering in the criminal justice system can nominate or be nominated for the national 2009 Justice Awards, with 15 awards for both teams and individuals.

Individual categories are: Caring for victims; Caring for witnesses; Tackling youth crime; Working with offenders; Engaging communities; Commitment to diversity; Long service; Volunteer of the year.

Team categories are: Caring for victims; Caring for witnesses; Tackling youth crime; Working with offenders; Engaging communities; Commitment to diversity; Partnership of the year.

Essex Criminal Justice Board holds its own local Essex Justice Awards alongside the national awards. Last year, five Essex nominees went through to the first stage of short-listing and two reached the national finals.

Last year's winners were drawn from the police, Crown Prosecution Service, HM Prison Service, Victim Support, probation, and community groups.

● The deadline for nominations is Monday, July 27, and the awards ceremony takes place in October.

Nominations can be made on-line at [www.cjsonline.gov.uk/justiceawards](http://www.cjsonline.gov.uk/justiceawards). If you require a nomination form in Microsoft Word format, email Essex Criminal Justice Board at [essexcjb@btconnect.com](mailto:essexcjb@btconnect.com)

● More information about last year's Essex nominees can be found at [www.cjsonline.gov.uk/essex](http://www.cjsonline.gov.uk/essex)

● YOU may know someone who deserves to be nominated for a Tackling Drugs Changing Lives Award, to recognise, reward and celebrate the work being done by drug teams and workers across the country.

This is the fourth year of the awards scheme. Tackling drugs to change lives and protect families and communities by reducing drug misuse and related crime are the aims of the government's drug strategy.

Across the country, practitioners are putting these aims into practice and making a real difference to people's lives.

Anyone can nominate a drug worker or team for an award, whether they are colleagues, friends, family members or current or ex-service users.

Nominations must demonstrate how the nominees have made a difference. The winners will have changed the lives of the people with whom they have worked, made a major impact on their communities and demonstrated inspirational commitment.

Now in their fourth year, the Tackling Drugs Changing Lives Awards provide national recognition for individuals and teams that carry out inspirational work at a local level.

The six categories are: Young people; Drugs and the Criminal Justice System; Community Engagement; National Tackling Drugs Week; Drug Team of the Year; Drug Worker of the Year.

Five finalists from each category will be invited to awards ceremony on December 9. Two overall winners will each receive £10,000.

Nominations must be received by Monday, August 31.

● Further information can be found at [www.drugs.homeoffice.gov.uk/awards2009](http://www.drugs.homeoffice.gov.uk/awards2009)





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

TO Ds Clare Brodie:

We experienced a burglary – it is an awful thing to happen and you always like to think it will never happen to you.

We would like to commend Dc Gary Quigley for the kind and professional way he handled our incident.

From the moment we phoned Essex Police to report the burglary we have been given first-class treatment.

On the day in question Dc Quigley arrived within the hour and did not leave our house until 7pm.

He returned the following day doing house-to-house enquiries, discussing and talking to us about what he thought may have happened.

He was always polite, respectful and provided us with all the relevant information.

He took time to talk and reassure our nervous daughter – who was going to be on her own in the next few weeks – that if she had any fears she should contact Braintree Police without hesitation.

In this day and age of cut-backs in jobs and the police force, we are amazed we were given so much time and attention.

Please pass on our utmost thanks and gratitude to him for all his time, effort and patience in making our ordeal less traumatic for us all.

**JO  
Witham**

TO Insp Rachel Wood:

I would like to thank Essex Police for the rapid and effective response to the incident here at Tilbury Power Station.

It is very reassuring that our local police are able to respond so quickly to an emergency call, particularly on a bank holiday, and ably demonstrates the degree of co-operation that exists between the police and our specialist security provider.

**RWE npower  
Tilbury Power Station**

TO Colchester police station: It is almost a year since I was robbed of £600 in a shop in Colchester and I would like to write and thank you for your utmost help and kind assistance.

I had a great shock when I suddenly discovered that my money had disappeared out of my handbag. At the time, Pc

Ben Andrewartha was very kind and escorted me home to make a statement.

I would like to thank everyone at Colchester police station, especially Pc Andrewartha and the two PCSOs – Gaynor Forster and Jackie Tyrrell, for their great kindness and dedication.

I have great respect and gratitude for your concern and your efforts.

**KC  
Colchester**

TO Chief Supt Keith Garnish: My sincere thanks for the professional and sympathetic way your investigating officer Pc Martin Knights handled the 'road rage' incident in which I was involved.

He was both understanding and thorough in the way he investigated the incident, especially as I was in a state of shock.

I am enclosing £20 for the Police Benevolent Fund as a small gesture of my thanks.

**RM  
Thorpe Bay**

I WOULD like to thank Pc Pierre Guilcher and Pc Jane Grieve for the kind and courteous way they helped me after my fall and escorted me home.

**JS  
Canvey Island**

TO Chief Constable Roger Baker: I would like to thank you, on behalf of my family, for the way your officers conducted themselves in dealing with my son.

Last October, we unfortunately had to contact Dc Rachel Fields and Dc Hollie Denham at Laindon Child Abuse Investigation Unit.

They were extremely sympathetic and helped my son to explain what had happened to him.

He was arrested two weeks later, at which point I discovered he had a problem with drugs.

The officers arranged for him to speak to the drug worker, who introduced him to a counsellor.

He was given great advice and was helped to attend the police station to speak about what he had done to fund his habit.

There, he met Pc Colin Keeble, who has now arranged for him to attend the Respect Project.

Your officers encouraged my son to stick with his counselling, which he did, and he has rewarded our faith in him by returning a completely clear random drugs test.

My son has medical issues and the way your officers dealt with him was just what he needed.

I cannot thank them enough and I think you should be very proud of them.

**MJ  
Stanford le Hope**

TO Chief Supt Keith Garnish: I write to express our appreciation, on behalf of all church members, for the hard work which resulted in the arrest of a person on suspicion of stealing the copper from our church spire.

The value of the materials and labour was £11,740, raised entirely by donations from friends and church members.

You can appreciate that this has hit us hard but we will continue our work in the community of Leigh.

Please accept our thanks for the efforts of your team.

**Leigh Road Baptist Church  
Leigh on Sea**

TO Chief Constable Roger Baker: I am a serving special constable in the Metropolitan Police and have been for 17 years – in north-west London.

My home was burgled and it was the first time I have been the victim of crime. It was very interesting to be on the receiving end of the police service.

It is important you should know how impressed I have been with the service I have received from your officers, particularly the response officer, Pc Kerry Guilder, who turned up on the day, the forensic officer – Pc Simon Bailey, and, since then, Dc Roly Leeming who has been handed the case.

The way you report the crime and the aftercare is something of which I really feel other forces should take note.

**RB  
Billericay**

TO Supt Gwynn Williams: My family had a difficult situation dealing with our teenage son.

Following a lot of shouting and upset, he left our home in a distressed state.

My husband, daughter and I were left anxious as to what to do for his personal safety and getting the family to start talking rationally and solving the problems.

My teenage daughter was walking the streets, looking for our son and eventually called Rayleigh police station, without our knowledge.

Pc Lee Duncan and Sc Michelle Hill attended and were considerate, friendly and helpful, guiding us through what we might do next.

We did not feel intimidated but supported. We were distressed at our family

circumstances and just how quickly dealing with teenagers can become quite stressful.

Your officers were just lovely and everything you home you could wish for from the police service. It was even followed up by a call the next day to see if all was well.

Thank you so much for the help we were offered and the way in which it was given.

We are very grateful – clearly police officers must come up against many difficult circumstances in any one shift so to be able to get the approach so right with us shows their talents in working with people.

**KW  
Rayleigh**

TO Chief Supt Keith Garnish: I would like to thank all officers involved in solving the theft from my car and recovering most of the money stolen.

Without such swift action, the criminals, together with my money, would have been able to escape.

I understand from Dc Alex King that when he has the time, he will try to trace just where the criminals picked me up as a target.

**AC  
Southend**

I AM writing on behalf of my friend to express his sincere gratitude and appreciation to all involved in the investigative incident at his home.

His neighbour hadn't seen him for a couple of days and was concerned for his wellbeing.

We were all extremely impressed with the kindness and courtesy afforded by all concerned and especially Pc Nina Yates who dealt with the matter in a thoroughly caring and professional manner.

Also, when we visited Southend police station, we were met at the front desk by a charming, friendly young woman who was also very efficient.

**DK  
Southend**

TO Chief Supt Keith Garnish: I want to give my sincere thanks to Pc Colin Comper and to Leigh police station for such a quick response.

My neighbour was returning from shopping when she was approached by two conmen who said they knew her and had repaired her roof.

Because she is partially-sighted she could not see them and let them into the house.

They requested £240 for the work but she showed them she only had £5 and would not have any more money until the end of the week.

Luckily they left, saying they would call back then.

She then came into us and we called the police. Within half an hour, Pc Comper arrived.

He was brilliant with my neighbour, who is 88. He did not rush her, just let her tell her story. Then he went into her house with her, reassuring her that she was perfectly safe and checking to see if anything had been moved.

I really was very impressed with him. He certainly did reassure her as she slept in the next morning and then did some gardening.

Two days later, Pc Keith Lucas rang, asking if I thought it was necessary to call in and speak to her.

I would like to thank you for your support.

**JL  
Leigh on Sea**

TO Chief Supt Keith Garnish: I would like to thank you and your team for all the support I have received regarding thefts at my shop.

Pc Steve Joynes was able to organise hidden cameras, with the help of Pc Andy McPhilimey and Pc Simon Puttock.

Through their assistance, I was able to discover who was taking the money. I would like to express my deepest gratitude for the support and professionalism of the officers.

**CW  
Rayleigh**

MY cousin walked out of the hospital where he was being treated and was missing for 48 hours.

I am his next of kin and I want to thank the members of Essex Police who were involved in finding him – he was eventually found walking down the A13, suffering from what appears to be temporary paranoia and confusion.

The members of your force – Pc Stephen Oakes, Sc Tracey Schneider, Sc Sarah Farrow, Pc Amber Radley, Pc Paul Woodward, Pc Laura Kyle and Pc Adam Bowden – were, throughout, helpful, considerate and efficient and seemed genuinely concerned for my cousin's welfare.

I couldn't have asked for better treatment.

**JP  
Bideford  
Devon**

TO Chief Insp Glenn Maleary: I wanted to let you know how delighted we with the work Pc Dawn Rowan has done here.

Everyone who has come into contact with Pc Rowan would say the contribution she is making has helped us

become an even better school.

She engages with everyone, is respected by the students and whenever we have needed her assistance, she has been there.

She came to our awards evening and is to give a presentation to governors about the partnership she has developed between Essex Police and the school.

This initiative is a great credit to you and I can genuinely say it has had a transformational effect upon us as a school.

**Chelmer Valley High School  
Chelmsford**

TO Insp Alan Jelley, Pc Steve Deats and Pc Danny Waller: Thank you for all your efforts in finally bringing the defendant to justice after a member of our family was killed after being struck by a car while out walking in Basildon.

Although the sentence was not commensurate with the crime, it has helped in drawing to a close a very painful chapter in our lives.

We, as a family, are united in our admiration for your dogged persistence in the face of a system which seems hell-bent at times to ensure the guilty get away with their crimes.

We know it was possible the defendant would have got away with a non-custodial sentence and feel he may well have done without your combined efforts to prevent that from happening.

**TP  
Basildon**

TO Pc Lucy Watson: Thank you for all your support over the past months. We will never forget.

**J, G & P R  
Rayleigh**

NB This letter relates to a road crash in which a member of the family died and the driver of another car was subsequently jailed for causing death by dangerous driving.

TO Insp David Colwell: My family and I would like to express our sincere thanks to all officers and staff on D-shift and the Focus Team.

We are very grateful for the help and understanding of everyone involved in searching for our mother.

Unfortunately, she suffers from advanced Alzheimer's disease and you cannot imagine our distress and concern when my father told us she was missing.

The response from the police was wonderful and we would like to thank everyone involved in the search.

**LE  
Southend**

**ESSEX Police Museum curator Becky Wash is pictured with her 1974 Clubman Estate Mini and her trophy for winning its class at the London to Brighton Mini Run. Becky and her car drove in torrential rain from Crystal Palace to Brighton with 2,000 other Minis. The car was recently used by Essex Police TV Unit for a 1970s-style film promoting car security.**



DISABILITY Network chair Tony Boothman is pictured, far right, wearing the gold medal that guest Dan Bentley, right, took along to the recent AGM. Dan, 24, who is trained by Essex Police Special Constabulary Assistant Chief Officer Lynette Flint, won his medal for boccia, a sport similar to carpet bowls, at the Beijing Paralympics. He gave an amusing and inspirational speech, which many who attended the AGM said they would never forget. Dan, who challenged Tony to a match during the AGM, first became interested in boccia eight years ago at college. Two years later he took part in his first international competition in Belgium. Last year, he was asked by Essex County Council to become a People's Champion. ● Disability Network news is on Page 4



**HAVE YOUR SAY:** Write to Heather Turner, Law Letters, Internal Communications, Police HQ, PO Box 2, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6DA or email [heather.turner@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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. The deadline is the 20th of each month.  
 We reserve the right to edit or omit letters. Please be aware *The Law* is reproduced on the internet and circulated to the media.

## Ex-Romford officers are called to lunch

I AM once again organising the ex-Romford Division reunion lunch for retired officers.

It will take place at HQ Sports Pavilion on Saturday, September 26, at 1pm, costing £13.75 per head, drinks not included. The bar will open at 11.30am.

Wives and partners are also invited and officers are also welcome to bring along their friends.

Please send cheques – made payable to SP Mather (Lunch account) – to me at Copper Leaves, 25 Queen's Avenue, Pooles Lane, Hullbridge SS5 6PS or ring me on 01702 231383.

**Stu Mather  
Hullbridge**

# Lesson learned to tread carefully

**I JOINED Essex County Constabulary, as it was then known, in the autumn of 1955 and my first posting was to Harold Hill.**

In those days there was sometimes a change of duty and on some Wednesdays and Saturdays one would be on duty in Romford market.

One Saturday, while talking to one of the stallholders who was selling rolls of cycle tread – just the tread, no side walls – I asked what they could be used for.

He said to sole shoes – one strip down the middle of the sole and a strip curved down either side. I bought a roll and did as he suggested with

the boots I wore on duty. Some days later, while on cycle patrol on the Harold Hill estate, I was sent with another officer to a break-in at Noak Hill Priory.

We attended and went inside the building and up into the tower to investigate.

Back at the police station, my colleague and I heard two CID officers talking about the break-in. One was saying he could not understand how whoever had broken into the building had taken their cycle up the tower.

Both of us stifled our laughter but then decided we ought to tell them what had happened and showed them the soles of my boots, much to their amusement as well.

**Tony Cooper  
Braintree**

## Sad news about former colleagues

MANY readers of *The Law* will by now have learnt of the death of former DCI Eric Smith, of Grays Division.

On his retirement in 1976, Eric and his wife Sheila moved to Somerset. I spoke to Eric shortly before he died and, although he had not enjoyed good health for a number of years, he was pleased to have made contact and was anxious to join the Chelmsford branch of the National Association of Retired Police Officers (NARPO).

Sadly that was not to be but Sheila has now become a widow member and hopefully be reminded of people she knew in the past.

While trying to locate Eric, I asked the Somerset NARPO branch secretary about the whereabouts of former Essex officer Lew Clark – he transferred to the Somerset force in the early 1970s.

Lew was an excellent sportsman, representing the force at football and cricket. I was greatly saddened to learn that he passed away in 1999, aged 66.

**Barry Tarbun  
Treasurer, Chelmsford NARPO  
Crossing**

## Down Memory Lane ...

### Film mystery solved by *The Law* readers

IN April's *Down Memory Lane*, Essex Police Museum curator Becky Wash asked whether readers of *The Law* could identify the two people featured in stills from a silent film about someone who has their bicycle stolen and reports it to New Street police station in Chelmsford.

The youth is John De'Ath, otherwise known as 'Flash De'Ath'. He was a police cadet at the time, aged 17 or 18.

He later joined the force as a police officer and served for two years before transferring to the Metropolitan Police for 15 years.

There was a great deal of debate as to who was the sergeant pictured.

Suggestions included Det Sgt Woodward, Sgt Basil Shoulders, Sgt Eric Knowles and Sgt Peter Rison.

However we believe it was Sgt William Brooks, who was serving in the Organisation and Training Department – which looked after new recruits – when the film was made.

Det Sgt Woodward was in charge of Photographic and they decided to experiment by making some training films. Cadet De'Ath was in the Photographic Department when the film was shot.

The film took a morning to shoot but it was never used and John De'Ath has never seen it. Mrs Wash is now in the process of contacting the East Anglia Film Archive to see if the film can be transferred to DVD.

Thanks to John De'Ath, Roger Barkway, Eric Knowles, Peter Burchell, Ken Oelbrick, Chris Snow, Jennie Davies, John Woolfitt, Bob Miller and Charlie Watts for their help.



THIS is a photograph of the Essex Police football team, taken sometime in the late 1950s or 1960s. My late husband, Robert Hyde, is kneeling behind the shield. I wonder if anyone can identify the rest of the people in the picture.

It must have been an important match to have the shield and trophy cups in front of them. I would also like to know why only three of the players are wearing badges pinned to their shirts.

**Miriam Hyde  
Rayleigh**

• If you know the answers to Mrs Hyde's questions, please write to Heather Turner, Law Letters, Internal Communications, Police HQ, PO Box 2, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6DA or email [heather.turner@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:heather.turner@essex.pnn.police.uk)



**CONTINGENCY planning officer Eddie Clarke sent in this picture of the Southend on Sea County Borough Constabulary Wednesday League football team, taken in the 1960s.**

**Back row, from left: Len Weight, Dick Bloomfield, Keith Bevell, Eddie Clarke, Jim Dickinson and Dave James.**

**Front row, from left: Tony Everitt, Paul Stanley, Dave Seago, Les Johns and Tom Dickinson.**



MY husband, Sgt Bert Turner, and other officers went to Chelmsford in 1968 to pick up a new fleet of cars for Colchester.

Sadly, his memory is fading and the only officer he can remember is Ian Hunter, the officer on the far left of the picture with a beard.

We wonder what the rest of the team are doing now.

**Dee Turner, Colchester**

• If you know the answers to Mrs Turner's questions, please write to Heather Turner, Law Letters, Internal Communications, Police HQ, PO Box 2, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6DA or email [heather.turner@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:heather.turner@essex.pnn.police.uk)

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**SAFFRON** Walden area, double room to rent allocated parking, garden. Bills and council tax included. Large kitchen, £380 per month. Contact Laura 07815 164020 .

# MBE for Maria and police authority gets new chief executive

**CASTLE Point Neighbourhood Watch area manager Maria Georgiou has been appointed a Member of the British Empire (MBE) in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.**

Maria's award recognises more than 17 years of voluntary work in building the scheme into one of the most successful in the county.

She became involved with Neighbourhood Watch (NW) shortly after moving to Canvey in 1992 when she volunteered to become a street coordinator.

Then fewer than 100 roads in Benfleet and Canvey Island were signed up to NW – today there are some 500.

Soon after, she became area manager for Castle Point and became the driving force behind its expansion.

News of her MBE was a complete surprise and she said it was recognition not only of her work but also that of everyone involved in Castle Point NW.

"I couldn't have got the scheme to the stage it is today without the support of the Castle Point Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and Essex Police, especially the neighbourhood policing teams and the PCSOs," she said.

"They have been instrumental in leafleting non-Neighbourhood Watch roads and speaking to people for me to get more people involved.

"My dream is to have every road in Castle Point signed up before I retire."

Castle Point district commander Chief Insp Paul Eveleigh said: "The success of Neighbourhood Watch in Castle Point is down to the dedication and enthusiasm shown by Maria over many years.

"Her efforts have contributed to driving down crime in the borough and this honour is richly deserved."

Essex Police Authority has a new chief executive – **Robin Paddock**.

Mr Paddock was previously deputy chief executive and the authority's treasurer.

On his appointment, he said: "I am thrilled to have been appointed as chief executive of Essex Police Authority. I have had the pleasure of being the authority's treasurer for six years now, and I am looking forward to pursuing my new position at what I believe is the best police authority in the country."

Mr Paddock lives in Great Horkesley with his wife and son and is a Colchester United fan.



● **Robin Paddock is the new Essex Police Authority chief executive**



● **Maria Georgiou MBE**  
Picture courtesy of Echo Newspapers

**Retirements**

Brentwood Custody sergeant **Tony Coleridge**, 50, has retired after almost 32 years' service with Essex Police.

He joined the force in 1977 and was posted to Southend, where he spent time with the Special Enquiry Section and CID. He transferred to HQ and then to Chelmsford, still in CID. After promotion to sergeant in 1996 he was first posted to Harlow before moving to Epping CID and returning to Harlow, again in CID. In 2007, he was posted to Brentwood Custody.

Pc **Mark Chapple**, 50, retired from the force last month, also after almost 32 years' service.

He served on Grays Division at South Ockendon, with the Force Support Unit, on Braintree Division and spent time at HQ working on IT projects. He also served with the Air Support Unit and Mobile Support Division.

Dc **Phil Barnes**, 48, retires at the end of this month after 30 years with the force.

He has served at Harwich, Colchester, Copford, Maldon, Chelmsford – both in uniform and CID – and his last posting was to Central Division's Domestic Abuse and Hate Crime Unit.

Tending service desk assistant **Derek Marshall**, 62, retires this month after almost 24 years with Essex Police, first as station office assistant and then on the Service Desk at Clacton.

And senior payroll officer **Pat Ryan**, 63, retired last month after 22 years with Essex Police in Financial Services.

Meanwhile clerical assistant **Mary Murray**, of Epping administration, was presented with flowers and an Essex Police clock by Supt Simon

Williams, of Western Division, to mark the fact that she has completed 30 years' service with the force.

**Obituaries**

Former Chief Supt **Bertram Williams**, of Walton on the Naze, has died, aged 89.

Mr Williams served from 1947 to 1980, first with the Southend on Sea County Borough Constabulary and then with Essex Police at HQ, Brentwood, Thurrock and Harlow.

Ex-Chief Insp **Eric Smith**, of Bridgewater in Somerset, has died, aged 83. He leaves a widow, Sheila.

Mr Smith served from 1946 to 1976 at Saffron Walden, Maldon, Laindon, Clacton, Wickford, Grays and Basildon.

Former Pc **Kenneth Bidwell**, of Ely, Cambridgeshire, has died, aged 78. He leaves a widow, Betty.

Mr Bidwell served with Cambridgeshire Police from 1952 to 1966, when he transferred to Essex Police. He served at Grays, Purfleet, Basildon and Brentwood and retired in 1982.

Ex-constable **Robert Corrie**, of Downham Market in Norfolk, had died, aged 62. He leaves a widow, Linda.

Mr Corrie served from 1975 to 1998 at Basildon, the Force Information Room, the Marine Unit and at Boreham, Southminster and Tillingham.

**Award**

Occupational health advisor **Sharon Sharp** has been awarded a BSc (Hons) degree in specialist community public health (occupational health) by London South Bank University.

The degree confers on Ms Sharp registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) as a specialist community public health nurse.

**BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE – ONE WORD PER BOX**


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Only adverts from those directly connected to Essex Police (either serving or retired) will be accepted. Adverts should be restricted to a **maximum of 24 words** and repeat ads should be re-submitted on a monthly basis. The deadline is the 20th of each month. *The Law* team reserves the right to edit or omit any advert.



● **This collared dove and its mate built a nest behind a drainpipe on the wall of the Assembly Hall at HQ. It was spotted by facilities support services technician Terry Gibbons, of Property Services, at the start of last month**



## Gents have a mixed start to the new season

THE Gentlemen of Essex CID cricket team got their first win of the season with a solid display against Billericay Veterans.

They batted first and endured a mini-collapse which saw the Gents at 11-3 but were rescued by a fine batting display by Jon Cannings who top-scored with 77.

He was supported by the ever-reliable Dave Griffiths who scored 29 and two quick-fire innings from guest Steve Tilson, scoring 16 off ten balls, and Mark Wilcox who scored 19 off five balls, including four fours. The Gents finished on 183 all out.

Fielding, the Gents were sharp and completed a quick over rate to speed up the match and the Billericay top five batsmen only scored 17 runs.

The match was over as a contest when a Veteran was caught at backward point by a flying catch from Harry Callaghan, enjoying a rare day off as wicket-keeper. Sutherby caught Southwell sharply at short square-leg off the bowling of Peter Orpe. John Moby returned good figures of 2-7 and Orpe returned figures of 2-19 off six overs.

Last month, the Gents visited Trinity College in Cambridge.

They had a good start, reducing the opposition to 45-5, but Trinity rescued the situation to finish on 222-6.

Both Castledine and Adrian Garnham bowled fast and accurately and finished with two wickets apiece. Miller and Bull accounted for the other two.

The Gents' reply saw a steady start from openers Sutherby - 23 - and Garnham - 14 - which was continued by Castledine - 29 - and Moby - 26.

However, good bowling by Trinity saw a steady fall of wickets.

Any chance of the Gents chasing down the total was dashed with an excellent caught and bowled to dismiss Castledine.

The tail-enders were unable to hold on for the draw when Trinity bought back the opening bowlers.

The Gents were finally all out with three overs remaining, scoring 138 and losing by 84 runs.

● THE Croker Cup cricket tournament takes place on Wednesday, August 5, at Bentley Cricket Club in Brentwood.

The format is Twenty20 and two wickets are available for the competition so matches can be played in tandem throughout the day.

● To take part, email organiser Adrian Garnham

## Charity five-a-side

TEAMS are needed for a summer charity five-a-side football tournament at HQ on September 6.

Profits will go to the Arron Williams Trust Fund and two other charities, one of which supports another person who has recently suffered paralysis and the other is Child Victims of Crime.

● Contact Colin Ellis via email for details

● The joint Essex Police Harwich Port Unit and UK Border Agency football team.

They now play in orange, having first worn the strip to show their support for the Dutch team in the European Championships



## Port unit puts up a brave fight against Dutch

SHOWING the spirit of European unity, a joint Essex Police Harwich Port Unit and UK Border Agency football team took on the might of the Rotterdam Brigade of the Koninklijke Marechaussee in the annual Dennis Bogg memorial trophy.

Sadly, despite home advantage and a spirited performance, they lost 3-1 to the Dutch side, who were defending the trophy.

The match has been played for more than 25 years and the venue alternates between Harwich and Hoek van Holland.

The Koninklijke Marechaussee are the Dutch Royal Marines who guard the Dutch borders as well as providing ceremonial and protection duties for Queen Beatrix - they work closely with Essex Police and HM Customs at Harwich Port.

History was made this year by the appearance of a female Marechaussee officer, the first woman to play in the fixture.

It was a closely fought match, with Harwich taking the lead after ten minutes and being unlucky not to go further ahead. The Marechaussee equalised

shortly before half-time.

The second half was close until the home team lost their star striker with a badly-broken ankle.

In the later stages of the game, the Marechaussee went in front after Harwich goalkeeper Jim Couchman made a fine close range save, only to see the rebound netted from close range.

The Dutch team went on to score a late goal to win 3-1 and win the cup, which was presented to them by Elizabeth Bogg in memory of her late husband, a Customs officer at Harwich for many years.

## Brian brings home silver

**PITSEA sergeant Brian Palombella brought home a silver medal from the British Judo Council regional competition.**

Palombella and fellow Pitsea officer James Rist - both members of the force's judo squad - didn't have to travel far to compete, the South Eastern Judo Competition was held in Southend Leisure Centre last month.

Palombella competed in the over-100kg category and fought his way through four rounds to successfully obtain the silver medal, while Rist

competed in the under-90kg section.

This turned out to be one of the most competitive sections of the competition. Rist fought valiantly through the first and second rounds before succumbing to a massive Dropping Ippon - Seoi - Nage which caused some serious shoulder damage and forced him to retire through injury.

The next major competition for the judo squad will be the PSUK competition, hosted by North Wales in October.

● THE judo squad still requires members to boost its numbers. Regardless of grade or experience, people interested can contact Brian Palombella by email or visit the Essex Police Sports Association intranet site

and click on the Judo introduction hyperlink for details of training venues and timetables.

● THERE are now two judo clubs, one covering the north of the county and the other the south, for officers and police staff.

Chelmsford Judo Club is at Mildmay Sports Hall, Anglia Ruskin University, Chelmsford Campus, Bishop Hall Lane, Chelmsford and classes are on Tuesdays from 8-9.30pm, £4 per session.

● For more details, contact sensei Ray Neenan on 01245 477326. Akitas Judo Club covers the southern half of the county - more information can be found on the EPSA intranet site.

## Fly-fishing season off to a good start

THE fly-fishing season began with an eastern regional competition at Grafham Water in Cambridgeshire.

The Essex A-team of Steve Turner, Dave Ware, Ed Green and Tony Lewis won the match comfortably with Lewis winning the individual section, with a weight of more than 22lbs, and Turner coming second.

Next up, Essex hosted a match at Hanningfield Reservoir near Chelmsford. Conditions were cool, with a moderate wind blowing across the water. Most anglers opted for tactics with flies being dragged behind the boats, although a few used more conventional methods. Loch-style drifts were severely hampered by the wind.

Essex A won with a combined weight of 82lbs 12ozs, Essex B came third and Turner took best individual bag

Last month's league match was again at Hanningfield but this time hosted by Suffolk Constabulary.

Essex fielded three teams. Fish were not easy to find, with several competitors failing to catch. Most opted for a back-drift approach.

Winners were Essex A - Tony Lewis, Ed Green, Steve Turner and Dave Ware - with 55lbs. Essex B - Fraser, Simon Willett and Paul Everritt - were third with 18lbs 11ozs, a good result as the fourth team member was sick and one of the team failed to catch any fish.

Fraser attended the PSUK English

Police fly-fishing event at Eyebrook Reservoir in Leicestershire and has been co-opted onto the committee of the English Police Fly Fishing Association.

He also represented England last month in the first of the home internationals at Chew Valley Reservoir near Bristol.

Bob Neil represented the English Police at the biennial European Police Championships, hosted by Scotland at the Lake of Monteith.

The match was fished to a three-fish limit plus a time bonus added for each hour after the third fish was caught.

At the final weigh-in, England were in third place with 43lbs.

## Retired member wins force lottery draw

THE winner of the £3,000 first prize in the June force lottery draw was Gary MacSwan, retired.

Second prize-winner was Pc Christopher Perry, of Southend Central Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT), who wins £1,000. Insp Emma Barker, of Thurrock Neighbourhood Support Team (NST) wins £500.

The winners of the £100 prizes were: Pc Joanne Lewis, of Loughton; Sgt Simon Willett, of Chelmsford Child Abuse Investigation Team; Sgt Chris Sculfor, of

Laindon and Basildon NST; David Bell, of Thurrock; DI Moira Owers, of Great Dunmow; DCI Terry Haines, of Crime Division; Pc Lynda Morris, of Burnham NPT; Insp Paul Butcher, of Colchester NPT; DI Peter Orpe, of Crime Division; Sonia Grimmette, of Harlow; Cheryl Gilbert, of IT; and Michael Aitchison, of Colchester.

The winners of the £50 prizes were: Brian Williams, retired; Pc David Frost, of Sandon Dog Section; Pc Sarah Trevers, of Chelmsford; Pc Harry Sexton, of the

Traffic Investigation Unit; Michael Breeding, retired; Pc Percy Persad, of Laindon Road Policing Unit (RPU); Rebecca Manford, of Colchester Criminal Justice Unit; Sgt Anthony Adams, of Southend; Sarah Thres, of Crime Bureau; Pc Nicola Jeffery, of Burnham NPT; Dc Paul McKee, of Braintree; Pc James Howell, of Southend NPT; Pc Gillian Brettell, of Southend NPT; Joanne Stemp, of Grays; Pc Paul Cornish, of Laindon RPU; and Christine Mason, of Crime Bureau.

## Croker mixed touch rugby tournament

THE Croker Cup mixed touch rugby tournament is on August 8 at HQ.

The divisional tournament, for men and women, runs from 1pm to 9pm.

There will be a barbeque and friends and family members are welcome to attend and support the teams.

And there will be a charity raffle for the Wooden Spoon rugby charity which provides support to disadvantaged children.

Organiser Myles Bradley said: "It will be a great day to have fun, meet new people and experience some team bonding."

● Men's and women's rugby training takes place at HQ on Tuesdays, 7.30-9pm

● To take part in the tournament, contact Myles Bradley on ext 20729, Emily Gizzi on ext 23043 or Andy Drake on ext 10910, or via email and they will refer you to your divisional team organiser



● Christian Robinson ext 58883



I THOUGHT June would be a good time to remind you about the Essex Police Sports Association lottery, especially as the summer draw is almost upon us. The EPSA lottery is only available to EPSA members and I believe this is its main appeal. I know we don't have the huge prizes of the National Lottery, however, when I look through the lottery winners there is usually a name that I recognise and I am sure it is the same for lots of people who work for Essex Police.

The draw is conducted on a monthly basis, under strict guidelines, by our lottery administrator John Mackenzie.

Members are allowed between one and 25 entries, each costing £1. A specific number is allocated to each entry and this number will not change. Doing the lottery this way means that there is never a roll-over and each prize is won every month.

In the summer and the winter, we add a car as an additional prize. This summer it will be an I20 from Hyundai, valued at around £8,645.

In the winter it is normally a larger car. Last year the prize was a Ford C-Max, valued at around £15,645.

● Enter the EPSA lottery online, using the application form on the EPSA intranet site, or send an email to lottery administrator John Mackenzie at john.mackenzie@essex.pnn.police.uk



● Temporary Chief Constable Andy Bliss, centre, is pictured with some of the winners of this year's Force Suggestion Scheme awards

Picture by Gary Kenton

# Bright ideas rewarded

**THE annual Force Suggestion Scheme awards were the biggest ever, with 51 bright ideas being acknowledged.**

Temporary Chief Constable Andy Bliss, who presented the cheques to those who were able to attend last month's awards ceremony, said afterwards: "The great ideas submitted by our employees are vital to improve our policing service and some will also save money, which will contribute towards Operation APEX.

"Whatever your idea, if it's beneficial to the force or improves public safety we always like to hear it. We really do appreciate all your good ideas and, if you submit them to the Force Suggestion Scheme, you have the chance to be awarded a cheque if your idea is implemented."

If an idea saves the force money, it may be adopted by Operation APEX – the Ambition for Policing in Essex which aims to save £27million to pay for an extra 600 police officers by September 2013 – and the person suggesting it will be considered for the award of a proportion of the savings generated, up to a total of £5,000.

Otherwise, ideas are considered under the normal terms of the Force Suggestion Scheme and can merit awards of between £25 and £250. Mr Bliss added: "Personally I would love to present a cheque for £5,000!"

## £250 award

Acting Insp **Scott Cannon**, of Laindon Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT), set up a process to identify vulnerable persons, property and premises (3VP) so NPT officers could discuss relevant crime reduction actions with those identified as 'vulnerable'. The 3VP scheme has been flagged up as best practice by HQ Territorial Policing and adopted by other NPTs in the force, as well as by Kent Police, and interest has been shown by the Metropolitan Police, too.

PCSO **Hayley Toye**, of Debden NPT, made two suggestions, the first that NPTs liaise with partner agencies to 'keep an eye' on older members of the community suffering 'memory lapses' to ensure they did not become excessively vulnerable to crime.

The Force Information Room now makes NPTs aware of such people if they come into contact with the force.

Hayley also noted a lack of material for use when visiting schools and devised a series of sketches, which are on the Territorial Policing intranet site – click on Educational Resources and scroll down to Colouring Sheet.

by Sarah Wilson

## £200 award

Safer Schools Partnership officer Pc **Nick Luff**, of Basildon, devised a scheme where primary school children were encouraged to speak to motorists caught speeding near the school.

This reduced vehicle speeds and has been rolled out across the county.

## £150 awards

Dc **Kevin Jones**, of Crime Division, suggested a way of improving security when accessing external internet sites.

E-fit operator Pc **Wendy Beazley**, of Colchester, suggested new processes to ensure sufficient officers and police staff were trained in e-fit techniques. Policy Guidelines have now been revised.

**Julie Fitch**, of Colchester Service Desk, drafted new guidelines to streamline the way front offices dealt with fixed penalty notices (FPNs).

Ds **David McDougall**, of the Public Protection Unit, created a Personal Development Plan (PDP) for police officers posted to major investigation teams (MITs), and the Professionalising Investigation Programme (PIP) drew up the Major Incident Refresher for them.

Internal communications officer **Heather Turner** proposed Essex introduce 'informative' email signatures. She compiled the force's templates for both email signatures and out-of-office replies.

Stansted Division support manager Insp **Ian Coleman**, drew up a form, together with the local hospital trust and G4S Medical Services, to note diagnoses if a detainee had had to visit hospital while in custody. It is now used throughout the county.

Rochford dog-handler Pc **Graham Nuth** ascertained there was no presentation about police officer recruitment so he produced one, which is now used by HR. It culminated in the DVD *A Day In The Life Of Essex Police*.

Pc **Lee Heaton**, of Brentwood Neighbourhood Support Team (NST), drafted an aide memoire for the Policing Pledge.

**Susan Hennessy**, of Southend, suggested additional checks to be made against a list of dangerous and persistent offenders.

The system has been effectively trialled in South Eastern and is now being undertaken by the Public Protection Unit worldwide.

## £130 awards

PCSO **Jonathan Shepherd**, of St Martin's

NPT, proposed that Airwave codes be printed in pads of Stop and Account forms. They will be printed on the last page of the pads from the next print run.

Southend Custody sergeant **Chris Bramhill** proposed a dedicated custody email address for solicitors' inquiries etc.

This reduced calls, improved effectiveness and is now being rolled out across the force.

## £120 award

Sgt **Nikki Gander**, of Chelmsford NPT, proposed alterations to NSPIS Case & Custody.

Changes are being made to both hard and electronic copies of form CID93b/Wanted1.

## £110 award

Procurement contracts officer **Nigel Hopgood** suggested making information available to employees which could reduce Essex Police Authority costs of refunding some eye examination costs. Policy Guidelines have been updated.

## £100 awards

Chelmsford warrant clerk **Bob Starling** proposed a number of efficiencies and improvements to the warrants process. The Criminal Justice Department (CJD) is now reviewing the warrants process and involved Mr Starling in initial discussions.

Great Yeldham station office assistant **Jan Marman** suggested a marker be placed against incidents involving the theft of metals, oil and diesel on the STORM command and control system, to identify trends.

Crime review officer **Mick Ornellas**, of Corporate Development, proposed a way of ensuring the name of an officers' supervisor can be found quickly via the Microsoft Outlook Address Book.

While working on the Asset Mapping project, acting Insp **Paul McMahon**, of CJD, proposed that defunct Microsoft Outlook 'folders' be removed, freeing up server space. This will happen over time.

IT infrastructure development administrator **Ian Anderson** researched the use of weekly rail warrants to save money.

Sgt **Jon McLeod**, of Pitsea North West NPT, proposed that details of Parentline Plus be included within the information in the DV1 booklet as many domestic abuse cases involved parenting issues.

Following a customer service inspection, Pc **Craig Wheeler**, of Western Professional Development Unit (PDU), identified the need to issue front offices with Reading Rulers for the Customer Care Pack to assist customers with dyslexia.

## £80 awards

Pc **Daniel Jeffries**, of Clacton Operational Management Unit, proposed an amendment to reduce time spent identifying exhibit numbers.

Pc Jeffries also received a £25 encouragement award for his proposal to change an Essex call sign to the national one, which has been implemented.

Southend Custody sergeant **Christopher Arnold** proposed Braille business cards be provided to neighbourhood specialist officers (NSOs) so they could pass on their contact details to blind and partially-sighted. While this was too costly, Braille strips will be made available to NSOs via the Diversity Unit.

## £70 awards

The suggestion of Pc **Charlotte Morgan**, of Chadwell NPT, has led to the development of a separate Witness Information Leaflet template in the standard Microsoft Word Template for laptop-users.

Pc **Arabella Wood**, of Brentwood NST, suggested that cards delivered to residents in the vicinity of a burglary contained a crime prevention message. The cards have been redesigned and will be incorporated in the Burglary Packs when they are reprinted.

**Bob Fortt**, a caseworker at Rochford, suggested that the reverse of the hard copy of the MG11 Witness Statement form should be made available in an interactive format.

## £60 awards

Western Custody manager Ds **Paul Maleary**, proposed issuing crime prevention leaflets addressing crimes associated with lorries and human trafficking. Mobile Support Division is producing a leaflet in Polish, Lithuanian, Danish, Welsh, Czech, Maltese, German and Spanish.

And Western facilities supervisor **David Thurgood** suggested fitting drain covers to reduce blockages and the cost of clearing them. Covers will be fitted as repairs and external decorations are carried out.

Rayleigh detention officer **Ken Elliott** proposed reminding suspects arrested at home to give any prescribed medication to the arresting officer to take to the police station with them.

## £50 awards

Colchester Custody sergeant **Trudi Hooper** compiled a series of useful aids covering a range of policing activities, which Essex Police College is going to publicise.

After Pc **Martin Winterbone**, of the Marine

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