



New Chief Constable vows to build on force's performance

'VERY IMPRESSED

WITH TEAM ESSEX'

by Heather Turner

THE force will continue to build on our impressive performance in reducing levels of crime and anti-social behaviour, says new Chief Constable Jim Barker-McCardle.

"My vision is for Essex to be the safest place in the country and for Essex to have the best policing in the country," he told *The Law*.

"We are all part of Team Essex and everyone in Essex Police should be very proud of what came out of last month's (July) British Crime Survey.

"The comparative risk of household crime in Essex is more than five percentage points better than the eastern region average and Essex is best in our group of most similar forces (MSF).

"The comparative risk of personal crime in Essex is better than the eastern region average and we are second in our MSF group.

"As far as perceptions of anti-social behaviour are concerned, we are in line with the eastern region average and second in our MSF group.

"This is significant progress and reflects very well on our efforts as well as indicating very good partnership working. I know we can do even more to further reduce these risks and perceptions of anti-social behaviour."

"The force's achievements can be put down to everyone, from front-line officers and PCSOs and staff in the Force Information Room to those employees in departments such as HR and finance who provide them with such valuable support and back up."

Essex Police Authority chairman Robert Chambers vowed it would be "business as usual" when Mr Barker-McCardle, 48, took up his post on Tuesday, September 8.

"We will continue to serve the public to the best of our ability as we done in the past four years but now under the leadership of Mr Barker-McCardle," he stressed.

A Southend boy for the first eight years of his life, Mr Barker-McCardle said he was "truly thrilled to be coming to Essex as Chief Constable".

His family moved to Broadstairs in Kent in 1969 and he joined Kent Police in 1981, rising to deputy chief constable before transferring to the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) in November 2007 as its DCC and deputy chief executive.

While Kent DCC, Mr Barker-McCardle was co-chairman of the Essex-Kent Collaboration project and he has also worked previously with Essex Police Authority.

He has already made several visits to Essex, talking to police officers and staff on Central, Western and Mobile Support divisions, at HQ and in the Force Information Room, as well as meeting our Chief Officers and representatives of the Essex Police Federation, Unison and the Superintendents' Association.

"I have been struck and very impressed by the morale, determination and motivation within the force, the concept of Team Essex and the commitment to serving the public – the belief that we are here to serve the people of Essex," said Mr Barker-McCardle.

"My advantage is that I will be building on a very strong platform when working to embed Neighbourhood Policing and the force's impressive performance in reducing crime and tackling anti-social behaviour," he said.

"The importance of effective partnership working in address-



● Essex Police Authority chairman Robert Chambers welcomes new Chief Constable Jim Barker-McCardle to Essex

Picture by Heather Turner

ing local issues cannot be understated and I look forward to meeting colleagues from partner organisations who are already making such a strong contribution to community safety."

Mr Barker-McCardle pointed out that the force faces other challenges too. The full range of policing extends from vandalism to counter-terrorism, stopping off at all points in between, including dealing with critical incidents, protecting children and vulnerable adults, the provision of a firearms response and the investigation of serious sexual assaults, homicides and serious and organised crime.

"I want us to excel at all that we do," said Mr Barker-McCardle.

"The threat from serious and organised crime is a threat across the entire country and, while Essex is a very safe place, we are not immune from this threat.

"But Essex is a force which has been highly effective at fighting serious crime and, through excellent intelligence, specialist policing tactics and investigation, we will continue to deliver hammer blows to such criminals.

"We will show them that if they expect to come to Essex or to

live in Essex and commit crime, they should expect the 'blue team' to be all over their case and to have to say 'goodbye' to their family and friends for a very long time when we put them away," he said.

Mr Barker-McCardle said officers would continue to attend every crime because each visit was an opportunity to bring someone to justice as well as providing early forensic opportunities and a quality of service to every victim of crime.

"Personal contact with a victim is the right thing to do and is consistent with our core policing values. People want visibility and reassurance," he said.

The public also wants appropriate strength in numbers and Mr Barker-McCardle praised Operation APEX – the ambition for policing in Essex which aims to recruit an extra 600 officers by September 2013 – as a "bold and exciting" plan.

"Anything which seeks to make our money go as far as it can and put more officers on the streets is unquestionably right for the people of Essex and, therefore, for Essex Police," he said.

"Essex is a safe place to be and it must get even safer every year."

● See Corner the chairman – Page 5

Can you help to select our Specials?

IF you are 'selection interview' trained why not put your skills to good use?

Officers of the Essex Police Special Constabulary are a valuable resource and play an important part in policing.

The force aims to have 1,000 special constables by 2010 and we need your help.

As part of the selection process, applicants are asked to attend an interview with two panel members – comprising someone from HR, the Special Constabulary or a uniformed officer – to ensure the interview is fair and that applicants' questions can be answered.

Assessments are held roughly once a month and it is vital that people who are trained for selection interviews come forward to ensure that the selection process runs smoothly.

It is a great way to put your skills into practice and to add evidence to your personal development review (PDR).

Overtime cannot be paid, but time off in lieu (TOIL) with line management approval can be incurred.

• If you are selection interview-trained and/or would like further information, contact Philip Booth on ext 58705 or Anita Exley on ext 58710

'Protecting' the rangers

THE first two dogs to be accredited under the Essex Police Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) not only protect their handlers but act as a deterrent to troublemakers.

CSAS dogs Skye and Kalib patrol the streets of Harlow with their handlers James Pretty and Doug Niven, community safety rangers for Harlow Council who are CSAS-accredited.

The accreditation scheme, run by the force, gives the rangers the power to issue fixed penalty notices, confiscate alcohol and ask for the names and addresses of anyone behaving in an anti-social manner.

Each day they patrol the town's parks, playgrounds and public areas, helping to prevent crime and vandalism.

Doug, who patrols with Kalib, remembered an incident which could have been dangerous without his dog.

He said: "Often while we are out on patrol a situation that might seem harmless can escalate and without the dogs it would be very difficult to manage."

"I was patrolling the fishing ponds in Harlow and came across a man who was fishing during the closed season and very drunk."

"I asked him to stop; he then stood up and fell into the pond. His friends, sitting nearby thought he had been pushed in and became aggressive. I gave the command to Kalib, who stood in front of me and barked;

this gave me the chance to control the situation."

Skye's handler James said: "The dogs act as a deterrent to people intent on causing trouble. Quite often a situation only escalates through misunderstanding and having the dogs gives us the power to make people stop and listen."

To join CSAS individuals must work with the public. People already signed up to the scheme include traffic wardens, security staff and parking attendants. As highly-visible members of the community they are able to pass on vital local information and intelligence to the police.

In fact, they often act as an extra pair of eyes and ears and are able to notice even small changes.

Anyone who has been accredited by CSAS is easily recognised and wears a CSAS badge – Skye and Kalib also have their own CSAS dog collars.

• For further information on the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme visit www.essex.police.uk/csas or contact the force's CSAS officer Jenny Ayres on ext 50675

• **CSAS-accredited: Kalib, with his handler Doug Niven, and Skye, with her handler James Pretty**



Burglary slashed

Caring for the police survivors

ACC Derek Benson attended the annual Care of Police Survivors (COPS) Remembrance Service last month. And Sue Bishop – the widow of acting Sgt Brian 'Bill' Bishop, who was murdered in 1984 – attended the entire COPS weekend at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. More than 500 people were at the annual service, which remembers police officers killed on duty. Chief Officers from other UK forces attended, plus members of other police-related organisations, Metropolitan Police Commissioner Sir Paul Stephenson and HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary Denis O'Connor.

BURGLARY in west Essex was slashed by a half following Operation Zest 2.

The Western Division operation focused on criminals committing burglaries in Harlow, Epping Forest and Brentwood and coincided with the Metropolitan Police's Operation Ice Pick, which targeted criminals in neighbouring Havering, Redbridge and Dagenham.

Western divisional commander Chief Supt Tim Stokes said: "We want to ensure that criminals don't just travel into Essex from London so we implemented this operation to flush out and identify those who are intent on committing crime, especially burglary."

The operation initially ran for the first two weeks of July but will now continue over the summer months.

Detectives joined forces with road policing officers during the high-visibility phases of the operation but officers also undertook covert operations.

More than 600 vehicles were stopped during the initial fortnight, with two recovered from house burglaries and another six seized for various motoring offences.

With 16 people arrested for a range of offences from drink-driving to fraud and from theft, to people wanted by police, Chief Supt Stokes said he was delighted that burglary had been reduced by 51 per cent during the first two weeks.

He added: "Burglars cause misery to residents by causing damage to their homes and stealing their valuable possessions."

"This operation should send out a clear message to the criminal – we will not tolerate this or any crime happening in our division, we will continue to find you and we will bring you to justice."

Foundation training manager

Essex Police College

£31,386-£34,233 pa
37 hours per week

Essex Police College is looking to recruit a full-time member of police staff to manage its team of professional and committed foundation trainers. We would welcome applications from current or experienced managers, including retired police officers with managerial experience. Recognised training or teaching qualifications are an advantage but not necessary.

• For further information about the role, contact Chief Insp Ian Cummings on 0300 333 4444 ext 56105
• For full details and an application pack, call the HR Business Team on 01245 452716, quoting reference number 851.

Closing date for applications: Friday, August 28, 2009



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Increased bike patrols prove huge success across Essex

OFFICERS in Thurrock successfully arrested a shoplifter less than an hour after the launch of Operation Velo in South Western Division.

The operation has increased the number of bike patrols across the country since it was launched by temporary Chief Constable Andy Bliss last month.

Mr Bliss said: "The operation is going extremely well and is making a real difference. It is great to hear how enthusiastic the public are about seeing more officers on bikes out and about in Essex."

Thurrock district launched its part of the initiative at Lakeside Shopping Centre.

A 16-year-old youth from Romford was caught by officers on bikes shortly after stealing nearly £400 of computer items from Lakeside's Apple store.

He was charged with theft. District commander Chief Insp Paul Moor said bikes made patrolling Lakeside more efficient, as it was a large area.

"The bikes will provide a high-visibility presence and will allow officers to reach areas that are inaccessible by car. The car parks here can be patrolled on the bikes, letting members of the public know that police are looking after their vehicles whilst they enjoy a bit of shopping," said Chief Insp Moor.

"Across Thurrock, there are quite a lot of urban areas that pedal cycles are ideal to access. The addition of the bikes to our regular patrols will mean that we can disrupt criminality in the district further.

Across in South Eastern, the first arrests by police officers on bikes after the launch of Operation Velo were made when shoplifting suspects returned to the scene the following day.

Two officers on bikes were able to ride quickly to the shop in Leigh on Sea and arrested three youths on suspicion of theft and public order offences.

And over in Harlow, PCSOs on bike patrol came across a 19-year-old man suspected of stealing a mobility scooter.

Fellow officers arrested him and charged him with taking a vehicle without the owner's consent.

The man was sent to a young offenders' institution for four months and banned from driving for six months.

Harlow inspector Tom Mitchell said: "Our PCSOs are certainly clocking up the miles while on bike patrols.

"They are able to get to areas where vehicles cannot go. This added benefit allows them to seek out those people causing a nuisance within our community and bring them to justice."

Colleagues mourn death of fellow officer



FOLLOWING the death of Laindon officer Pc Paul Woodward, pictured left, his partner Sc Sarah Farrow and colleagues laid flowers in Laindon police station yard. More flowers were laid for Pc Woodward's funeral on July 10 and a two-minute silence was observed at noon – the time corresponded with the start of Pc Woodward's funeral in South Africa. Pc Woodward, of Laindon and Basildon Neighbourhood Support Team, died in a road traffic collision while on holiday in South Africa last month.

● Tribute – Page 10

College trainer's national first

ESSEX Police College trainer Jason Poole is the first person in the country to achieve a new vocational qualification in conjunction with the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA).

Jason was assessed at work to gain his Level Four grading in the new Vocationally Recognised Qualification (VRQ) in conjunction with City and Guilds.

First he gained a Level 4 Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (PTLLS) qualification. Then he went on to achieve a Level 4 in his Certificate in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector (CTLTS).

Both awards are qualifications which all teachers have to attain before they can teach in schools. They are obtained by a mix of teaching observed by an internal (college) assessor along with various research and written pieces.

The NPIA then verifies the assessment before it is finally approved by City and Guilds. Gaining both his PTLLS and CTLTS meant Jason was awarded the first VRQ in the country.

Two other members of Essex Police College staff – Natalie Watkins and Aidan Brick – are in the final stages of gaining their VRQs.

PCSO learning and development manager Nichola Hurley said: "Jason devoted a vast amount of personal time towards this qualification alongside his full-time teaching role as a PCSO trainer.

"And he had to train a new PCSO trainer and learn a new six-week PCSO programme at the same time.

"The VRQ will help us to continue the professionalisation of Essex Police College and I congratulate Jason on his achievements."

Laura Spring

A 'bobby' in the lobby

A NEW way for the townspeople of Basildon to talk to their local police officers has been launched.

The Bobby in the Lobby scheme sees PCSOs from the Fryerns ward manning the lobby of B&Q on Pippis Hill retail park, Basildon, so customers can talk to them about any problems and they can offer crime prevention advice.

The PCSOs will also carry information for all the neighbourhood policing teams across the Basildon district, as the recognise that not all shoppers will be local.

PCSO Gary Newton said: "Unlike beat surgeries or Cuppa with a Copper events, shoppers won't have to come to us, as we have come to them."

Right people and skills: right places and time

OUR new Duty Management System is to be rolled out across the force in stages.

It begins with Mobile Support Division and Stansted Airport Division next month and South Eastern Division in October.

The Duty Management System (DMS) is a replacement for Promis and is part of the ORIGIN HR system developed with the support of the National Police Improvement Agency (NPIA).

Alongside DMS will sit DMS Web, which all police officers and police staff will use instead of PromisWeb.

The roll-out is due to start with Mobile Support Division and Stansted Division going live on September 1 and all police officers and police staff on those divisions need to have completed the computer-based training (CBT) program beforehand.

Officers and police staff in other divisions and departments will also need to know how to use DMS Web by September 1 if their job means they need to access the duty details of police



officers and police staff on MSD and Stansted Airport Division.

After the roll-out across South Eastern Division in October, the remaining divisions and all HQ departments will go live on DMS in stages during 2010.

ACC Sue Harrison said the benefits of DMS would be tremendous. "DMS will provide a single source of people information and make it available to the entire force for resource planning and operational deployment," she said.

"This will give us the right people with the right skills in the right place at the right time."

Using DMS Web, police officers and police staff will be able to:

- search for and view individual and station / team duties
- access advanced search functions
- book and manage annual leave, time off in lieu (TOIL) and rest days in lieu (RDIL).

Pair's close shave for charity



● Phil Stokes and Jenny Grantham's close shave

Picture by Ken Baptist

TWO members of police staff have had their hair shaved off to raise money for Great Ormond Street Hospital in London.

Not content with having their heads shaved, Phil Stokes, 38, and Jenny Grantham, 48, of Communications Division, also had another 'close shave' – with a local barber.

Watched by friends and colleagues at Essex Police Sports Pavilion last month, the two women were visibly nervous. But, as they kept saying, it was for a great cause.

PNC Support officer Phil, 38, said: "I was talking to a friend whose wife is going through chemotherapy and is losing her hair and then someone challenged me to shave my head to raise money for charity.

"I took on the challenge and Jenny said she would take part too so that we could raise more money."

PNC Support supervisor Jenny, 48, said: "It finally hit me the weekend after when I became a bit emotional, not because of how I look but because of the fantastic moral support we have had as well as the sponsorship from all our friends, family and colleagues.

"Surprisingly I am getting used to being bald! It's brilliant not having to allow extra time for hair-washing and drying before going out and it gets me an extra half an hour in bed before work."

Colleague Ken Baptist said: "The expressions on their faces when they saw the result was truly amazing. They were so brave." To date, Phil and Jenny have raised more than £2,000.

- To pledge money, visit www.justgiving.com/philandjenny

Federation news by Roy Scanes



New conduct regulations – six months on
 WITH the implementation of new regulations for discipline and unsatisfactory performance last December, the ethos in all but the most serious cases of misconduct has changed from one of punishment to one of learning, development and improvement.

Essex Police Federation is carefully monitoring the introduction of the regulations to ensure they are adhered to correctly.

The new regulations are based on the recommendations of former City of London Police Commissioner Bill Taylor, who had been asked by the government to conduct a review of discipline procedures and examine how they could be brought more into line with modern employment law.

Those of us who hold the Office of Constable are different from employees:

Police officers' conditions of service are provided by Police Regulations, Police Conduct Regulations and Police Performance Regulations – many reflect similar provisions to employment law but from a police perspective.

The Police (Health & Safety) Act 1997 requires Chief Officers to provide a safe working environment for police officers.

Once employed and out of probation, a police officer cannot lose his or her job unless there is accompanying misconduct, poor attendance or poor performance.

Police officers, therefore, cannot complain of constructive dismissal.

The guiding principles of the new regulations are speed, simplicity and positivity – rather than punitive outcomes.

Only cases of gross misconduct should be dealt with by the Professional Standards Department, with everything else being dealt with at a local level.

This will speed up the process so officers won't have to spend long, potentially distressing periods waiting while an investigation takes place. It also means that officers will be dealt with by managers who know them, which is important in helping to achieve the main goal of the new regulations.

One of Essex Police Federation's long-

standing complaints has been about the tendency of managers to use discipline procedures to deal with what are, in reality, simple performance issues because they have not understood the Unsatisfactory Performance Procedures.

Under the new Police Misconduct Regulations, the Unsatisfactory Performance Procedures have been shortened and simplified in order to rectify this problem.

This should have a major impact on things like complaints from the public. For example, if an officer is subject to a complaint about rudeness, they should be encouraged to learn to handle things better and then move on, rather than simply being investigated at length for misconduct.

Essex Police Federation does have some concerns – the misconduct and unsatisfactory processes are now very similar but if a manager feels familiar only with the misconduct process, that is the one they will probably use.

We have already highlighted our concerns to our new Chief Constable, Jim Barker-McCardle, who has assured us he will look into the matter.

Federation representatives trained in the new regulations are ready to assist and advise you over criminal and misconduct issues.

They can act on your behalf to facilitate the process and often, these are the only occasions that officers contact the Federation.

If you are served with a Regulation 15 Notice then inform your local Federation representative immediately.

Public holidays – Christmas 2009

Those of you who have had time to look ahead to Christmas and the New Year will have noticed that this year, December 26, Boxing Day, falls on a Saturday – when this occurs, national public holiday days are relocated.

As a consequence, Monday, December 28, has been declared a public holiday.

In so far as police officers are concerned, the provisions of Police Regulations means that all three days – December 25, 26 and 28, 2009 – will be treated as public holidays. Friday, January 1, 2010, is also a public holiday.

Unison news by Mike Frost



IT'S 'all change' everywhere, or so it seems at the moment doesn't it?

Some of us handle change well and some of us find it very difficult. Change happens in our lives all the time, though, so we just have to deal with it the best way we can!

On the local Unison front, we have moved our office and are now in two light and airy rooms on the first floor of Kingston House next to Essex Police College at HQ.

It's a huge improvement and, once the dust has settled, all the inconvenience and upheaval will have been worthwhile.

Our contact details have not changed so we can be reached just as we always could, whenever anyone wants to speak to us.

As for the force? Well, we now know who the new Chief Constable is – Jim Barker-McCardle comes with a wealth of relevant policing knowledge, national experience from the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) and, potentially best of all, he is a "local boy".

Hailing from Southend and having spent most of his service in Kent, Mr Barker-McCardle will certainly have the county's interests at heart and understand the wants, needs, fears and expectations of our communities.

Hopefully he will also understand and value the loyalty and contributions that his police staff colleagues bring to the force at every level.

Unison very much looks forward to welcoming Mr Barker-McCardle and to working closely with him to ensure that issues are properly and constructively addressed, as the force continues its drive to meet the challenges of modern policing in such a diverse county as Essex.

Some challenges they are too! Operation APEX seeks the grail of putting 600 extra and much-needed police officers on to the highways and byways of Essex.

Finding the money to finance this over the years ahead is an immensely difficult undertaking. To do it, every nook and cranny of the force will be scrutinised to drive out

inefficiencies and to increase productivity.

Managers are being asked to deliver new ways of working and, inevitably at such times of change, employees feel threatened.

When that happens, a sensible employer engages in the management of change with care and sensitivity, to ensure that colleagues do not feel disenfranchised, demoralised or disenchanted.

Unison can help. A pragmatic place to start is with the principle that management has the right to manage.

The force's business case must be met as cost-effectively as possible and the people who have the responsibility to ensure that are the Chief Officers.

However, the employer is properly bound by employment law and has a duty of care to all employees.

Both management and employees must respect individual contracts of employment and stand by national and local agreements. The challenge comes from the fact that this is complex and not always in accord with the common-sense perceptions of the people involved on either side, who, quite understandably, tend to see things from their own point of view.

Members of Unison can always contact their local steward, or the executive at HQ, for help and advice with any issues that are troubling them.

Sometimes just a chat about a situation can result in an understanding of why things are happening.

That may not always bring about the desired outcome but at least it can help with coming to terms with the unpalatable.

Sometimes, though, it is right and proper to challenge what is going on in the workplace. That can be difficult and stressful and often requires specialist knowledge and experience.

Unison representatives can either provide that or have access to specialist and legal advice that is invaluable should the need arise.

If you need us, call us – we will always help in any way we can. Unison cares.

ESSEX POLICE



The new Duty Management System (DMS) is here

Everyone needs to know how to use DMS Web – the replacement for PromisWeb

Complete the CBT to find out - Find it listed under the Training & CBTs menu on the intranet Site Directory

For more information on DMS Web, visit the intranet site, listed under Projects on the Information and Projects menu



DMS
DUTY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

putting the right people with the right skills
in the right place at the right time



Charity news

● AFTER cycling 1,072 miles, road policing sergeant Dave Jones has collected more than £2,000 for charity.

Dave, 44, embarked on the 12-day ride from one end of the UK to the other in memory of former colleague and friend, Mark Hylands, who died suddenly last year.

Dave, who works in the Road Crash Investigation Unit in Billericay, set off from Land's End in Cornwall, to raise funds for the Help for Heroes charity.

He said: "It was a great experience but very mentally testing at times. At one stage I had to slam on my brakes to avoid hitting an elderly woman who had put the wrong indicator on. I went over the handle bars and cut my knees and elbows."

And he would consider doing something similar again – but next time with some company. He added: "I didn't find it too lonely although it would have been nice to have someone to share the experience with – especially the moment when I crossed the finish line."

● You can still sponsor Dave. Visit www.joneses100.co.uk or www.justgiving.com/jones260

● UNISON secretary Barry Faber and De Paul Jones, from Brentwood, have both taken on a challenge and raised money for charity.

Paul ran 10km for Endometriosis UK in London last month after his wife had suffered with endometriosis – he wanted to give something back to the charity to thank it for the support they had received.

Running the 10km course in 37 minutes and 33 seconds, Paul was nail-bitingly close to finishing in the top 50 out of the 29,000 runners taking part. He raised £430 for the charity.

And Barry cycled 40 miles for the Orchid cancer charity after he was challenged by his son Steve to get back in the saddle.

Barry completed the course, through the countryside round Billericay, in two hours and 20 minutes.

He raised almost £300 for Orchid – the only UK charity which concentrates on cancers which specifically affect men.

● Visit www.endometriosis-uk.org and www.orchid-cancer.org.uk for more details



● Insp Adrian Dearsley on the Inca Trail near Machu Picchu

● A COLCHESTER officer touched by the support his sister received from Macmillan nurses completed a gruelling five-day trek in Peru.

Insp Adrian Dearsley, 50, of the Garrison police station, was inspired to take on the Inca Trail challenge by his sister Diane, who died last year following a battle with breast cancer.

He said: "Throughout her illness she received tremendous support from Macmillan Cancer Support, which really helped both Diane and all of our family to cope with this very difficult period."

"Before Diane died I told her about the challenge and she was very happy to know that I would be doing this to ensure that others receive the same level of care in the future."

Nine months of training and fund raising paid off as Adrian raised almost £7,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

He said: "It was a great personal development challenge for me and I enjoyed every minute of it, apart from the altitude sickness."

● Visit www.justgiving.com/adriandearsley

Corner the chairman



● Essex Police Authority chairman
Robert Chambers

Welcome to new Chief Constable

“AS I am sure you are now all aware, last month, Essex Police Authority officially appointed Jim Barker-McCardle as Chief Constable of Essex Police. Mr Barker-McCardle will be joining us on Tuesday, September 8.

I am delighted that he has agreed to be our new Chief Constable and I am very much looking forward to working with him and seeing what the next five years will bring. Mr Barker-McCardle is one of the top cops in the country and will bring a wealth of experience to the force.

It is also refreshing to know that the county means a lot to him as he will be returning to his roots – he was born in Southend.

I am sure that Mr Barker-McCardle will continue on the path that Essex Police and Essex Police Authority have started in terms of policing and giving the people of Essex what they want – more police visible on the streets.”

Do you have a special photo for us?

THE force has launched a photo competition to find pictures of locations in Essex to use on our website www.essex.police.uk. We are looking for great photos of places in Essex to make sure our website reflects the county we serve.

So, whether you are amateur or professional, why not send in pictures of places which illustrate what Essex means to you – please note, there should be no people in your pictures. Five photos will be shortlisted – first prize is an iPod Touch, second prize is a digital photo frame and three runners-up will each win a digital photo key-ring.

● Read the competition terms and conditions at www.essex.police.uk/photos. Then email up to three photos, together with where they were taken plus your name and contact details to photos@essex.pnn.police.uk by midnight on Friday, September 4.

Women attracted to public order

A POSITIVE attitude to making the roles of public order and firearms officers more accessible to women has been a great success for the force.

About three years ago there were only 11 female officers who were public order-trained, now there are 84 women out of a total of 300 officers, including sergeants and an inspector.

The number of women firearms officers has also increased and weapons trainer Sgt Tim Johnstone says that this is a result of Essex leading the way in tackling under-representation in a positive way.

Essex has liaised with weapons manufacturers and now has a selection of weapons – including Sig-Pro 9mm semi-automatic handguns – which have a smaller grip and are better suited to a smaller body-frame.

Body armour has been specially designed to fit women – a follow-on from the introduction of the two-piece public order coverall for women a number of years ago.

Sgt Johnstone said: “I have been to meetings with other forces and am not aware of any other force that is making the same adjustments.

“The proof of the pudding is shown by the increase in the numbers of women who are attending our women-only public order training days based in Kent.”

● The next women-only public order taster days are on September 11 and 12. Women officers the chance to go along, look and try, to see if they are interested in the role and want to progress to full mutual aid trained (MAT) level. Contact Sgt Tim Johnstone via email for more information



● Women officers taking part in petrol-bomb public order training at Lydd in Kent

New cash to help turn youths from violence

THE force has been awarded a further £100,000 for 2009/10 by the government to continue the proactive work it has been undertaking in relation to knife crime.

In June 2008, Essex Police became one of ten forces in England and Wales chosen by the government to join the Tackling Knives Action Programme (TKAP).

Phase 1 has now concluded – it aimed to reduce the carrying of knives, related homicides and serious stabbings amongst those aged between 13 and 19 and Essex has had no homicides of under-20s since we joined TKAP.

Now phase two has expanded TKAP's focus to include 13 to 24-year-olds and it will look at the entire issue of serious youth violence, not just knives.

Insp Kevin Whipps, of the Children and Young People team, explained that phase two recognised that victim and offender profiles surrounding serious youth violence showed it affected

mainly 13 to 24-year-olds nationally, and 16 to 24-year-olds in Essex.

He said the new money from the government would be spent on prevention and enforcement work, particularly at night, and on providing engagement and ‘diversion’ opportunities for young people.

Supt Ewen Wilson, head of Territorial Policing, said: “We will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that knife crime in Essex remains low. Those responsible for committing such offences in Essex will be dealt with robustly with the full weight of the criminal justice system.”

The force was recognised by the government because of the educational and preventative work we were doing already in relation to knife crime, prior to TKAP.

Essex is one of the safest counties in the country and does not experience a big problem with knife crime

Statistics released by the Home Office show that in 2007/08 levels of knife in Essex were the lowest compared to the other ten forces involved in TKAP and also amongst other UK forces.

We have been praised by the govern-

ment for the proactive work we carry out with youngsters in relation to knife crime, particularly through the 2SMART programme, which recently finished its 2009 series of schools roadshows.

And officers will continue to visit schools and colleges to teach young people about the dangers of knife crime.

Along with education, prevention and enforcement, increased police presence is key in keeping Essex safe and the number of police on the streets of Essex continues to grow through Operation APEX.

Patrols are also being increased at night as this is when people tell us they feel the most vulnerable.

And officers will continue to deploy safety arches and ‘wand’ detectors throughout the county to tackle those who carry knives.

Recent surveys show that public confidence in Essex Police is increasing and the force is committed to building on this further.

● Territorial Policing: supporting the delivery of excellence in policing – see Pages 6 & 7

Sun shines on pensioners' garden party

A SUNNY summer afternoon at Essex Police HQ in Springfield – the band playing, happy faces, friends and former colleagues reunited, memories shared, tea and cakes, strawberries and cream, promises to meet again next year ... if not before.

More than 350 retired officers and police staff, together with their guests, met to enjoy the annual Essex Police Pensioners' Garden Party on July 10. Chairman of the Garden Party Committee, retired inspector and employee

relations officer Stewart Rowe expressed his gratitude to all those who contributed to making the day such a success. He said: “To my knowledge the Essex Police Pensioners' Garden Party is unique amongst police forces in the UK and is the envy of many. Long may it continue.”

● Pictured right is former Sgt Roy Smith – looking as immaculate in retirement as he did when serving Essex Police

Picture by Roger Grimwade



Helping you to engage with your schools

ESSEX Police Museum curator Becky Wash has been commended for the educational resources she provides to schools.

The East of England Broadband Network E2BN presented her with a certificate of commendation for excellent resources provided to schools.

Since January, Becky has compiled photographs, film clips, and soundtracks about the history of Essex Police.

The resources can be used by teachers and pupils in the classroom as part of National Curriculum studies for such subjects as Victorian crime and punishment and World War Two.

Other subjects include police communications, police equipment, police stations, police uniform, the Dog Unit, the Mounted Unit, women in policing and transport.

The resources can also be used as preparation for or follow-up to a visit to the museum, which is based at Essex Police HQ in Springfield.

Becky has been Essex Police Museum curator for four years. During 2008/09, the museum attracted its highest number of visitors – 8,140.

● For more information, police officers and staff can contact Becky on ext 50771

● Schools can arrange a visit to Essex Police Museum by contacting Becky on 01245 457150 or via email at becky.wash@essex.pnn.police.uk

● To view the schools' educational resources, visit www.essex.police.uk/museum and click on Education and then on the E2BN Gallery logo in the bottom right-hand corner – you do not need a password to access it

● Essex Police Museum also provides Citizenship sessions for schools – details can be found by visiting www.essex.police.uk/museum and clicking on Education

Roger Baker to HMIC

FORMER Chief Constable Roger Baker has been appointed as one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary.

Mr Baker, Merseyside Chief Constable Bernard Hogan-Howe, Audit Commission director Zoe Billingham and Dru Sharpling, Chief Crown Prosecutor for CPS London, will work as inspectors alongside HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary Denis O'Connor.

They were appointed following interviews with a senior Home Office panel and after final approval by the Queen.

Temporary Chief Constable Andy Bliss said: “This is a magnificent accolade for Roger Baker and an immensely proud moment for Essex Police. The last Essex Chief Constable to be appointed as an HM inspector was Sir Robert Bunyard in 1998.”



● The Children and Young People and Substance Misuse team – Yvette Grimes, Dan Rankin, Insp Kevin Whipps and Jo van Zanten

Young people are our future

THE Children and Young People and the Substance Misuse portfolios are headed up by Insp Kevin Whipps.

His team consists of youth participation workers Dan Rankin and Jo van Zanten and Tackling Knives Action Plan (TKAP) researcher Yvette Grimes.

Two sergeants are in the process of being recruited – one for the youth side of things and one for drugs.

The Children and Young People portfolio encompasses all aspects of policing those under 18 and, in some cases, those under 25. Specific areas include:

- youth justice
- young victims of crime
- engagement with young people
- policing schools
- Every Child Matters.

The Children's Act 2004 states that it is the legal responsibility of every police officer and member of police staff to promote and safeguard the welfare of every child and young person in Essex.

Insp Whipps explained: "This means taking the right approach to how we deal with them, whether they are a victim, an offender or a member of the public."

"We want to make sure we deal positively with those who continually reoffend, provide confidence and support for those who are most vulnerable and know where to refer those who need help that we, as a force, can't provide, for example Social Services, the Common Assessment Framework (CAF), drug and alcohol services and Catch 22."

Insp Whipps is also responsible for the six seconded officers who work in the multi-agency youth offending teams at Harlow, Basildon, Colchester, Chelmsford, Southend and Thurrock.

Their primary responsibility is to prevent reoffending and reduce offending by young people.

One of the ways you can help achieve this is by passing them as much information as possible about the young offender with whom you are dealing, so they can determine the most appropriate intervention.

To make this simple, you fill in the RW1 Young Offender Referral Form, which can either be found on the intranet Force Forms Register or via a quick link on the Territorial Policing intranet site home page.

Police have a statutory requirement to refer all young people to the Youth Offending Service for their area within 24 hours of issuing reprimands, warnings, penalty notices for disorder (PNDs) and fixed penalty notices (FPNs) or if the young person has been reported or charged.

The Children and Young People team is also the force's professional lead for policing schools. Team members regularly meet all the Safer Schools Partnership (SSP) officers and PCSOs and work very closely with them to ensure really good relationships are built with all schools.

Insp Whipps said: "This enables us to develop positive relationships with children and young people from an early age and we can work with schools to identify those who are most at risk of offending or becoming a victim."

Supporting the delivery of excellence in policing



● Supt Ewen Wilson with clerical and services manager Debi Parrish and senior clerk Zoe Brien. Researcher Kelly Ross is not pictured. Pictures by Heather Turner and Debi Parrish

BASED at Essex Police HQ, the Territorial Policing Department (TP) is key to our delivery of front-line policing services.

Headed up by Supt Ewen Wilson, TP manages a number of key portfolios as well as major projects such as the highly-successful 2SMART anti-knives, bullying, drugs and alcohol campaign and Essex Police's commitment to the national Tackling Knives Action Plan (TKAP).

Forewide, the department leads on:

- crime reduction and volume crime issues
- Neighbourhood Policing strategy and development
- development of the extended policing family, which includes members of Essex Police Special Constabulary, PCSOs, Neighbourhood Watch and Essex Watch, members of the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme, and volunteers in policing, now known as police support volunteers (PSVs)
- substance misuse strategy and development
- the force's youth strategy.

Supt Wilson said the department's role was to be proactive in supporting the delivery of front-line policing

services across Essex.

"It is important to remember that the contact between our communities and our services occurs predominantly on division and therefore TP's most important role is in supporting officers, PCSOs and police staff and enabling them to add value to this contact at every opportunity," he explained.

TP also plays a part in developing strategies and monitoring compliance and, since December, the department has secured approximately £800,000 of funding from external agencies.

Supt Wilson said: "This funding will serve to provide additional projects and opportunities that would not otherwise be possible. We have established excellent relationships with local and central government departments which enables us to position the force well to meet forthcoming challenges."

"Whilst I am proud of our achievements recently I am by no means complacent and there is always more to do – our challenging programme of work for 2009/10 is testament to this."

"This year, TP will be leading on a number of key projects for the force and, with the support of my team, I expect us to make a significant contribution to the force's performance in key areas such as youth crime and Neighbourhood Policing."



● Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) officer Jenny Ayres, Sgt Kelly Thurston, Insp Sam Jarvis and extended policing family co-ordinator Steve Kettle make up the Neighbourhood Policing and Extended Policing Family team

Sharing best practice, ensuring consistency

THE Neighbourhood Policing and Extended Policing Family portfolio is the remit of Insp Sam Jarvis, supported by Sgt Kelly Thurston, extended policing family co-ordinator Steve Kettle and Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) officer Jenny Ayres.

Insp Jarvis said all members of her team visit territorial divisions regularly to update neighbourhood policing teams with news about forthcoming changes and initiatives, to discuss problems and solutions and to provide updates on national and forewide good practice.

"She explained: "My team is responsible for ensuring a consistent approach to Neighbourhood Policing, incorporating the extended policing family."

- "We achieve this through close liaison with divisions, by ensuring they are updated with current changes and issues and by sharing good practice across the force."
- Current priorities are:
- managing the increase of officers on neighbourhood policing teams, in conjunction with divisional command teams
 - reviewing Neighbourhood Priority Levels, in conjunction with the divisions
 - working with Corporate Development and the Media Department's Internet Team to ensure that the Essex Police website www.essex.police.uk accurately reflects current force practice
 - reviewing the role of the neighbourhood specialist officer (NSO)
 - reviewing and updating the force's current Abstraction Policy and monitoring system
 - ensuring the deployment of PCSOs is consistent across the force
 - writing a new Cycle Policy and running

Operation Velo – which has seen a significant increase in the number of officers patrolling on bicycles since it was launched on July 1 by temporary Chief Constable Andy Bliss and Territorial Policing head Supt Ewen Wilson

- writing an 'umbrella' Neighbourhood Policing Policy, incorporating guidance on all aspects of Neighbourhood Policing to assist divisions
- increasing the numbers of organisations affiliated to CSAS, which means their staff are given powers to tackle graffiti, litter, abandoned cars and anti-social behaviour. CSAS is aimed at those which contribute to community safety and accredited staff are awarded powers appropriate to their role
- arranging a forewide recruitment drive to encourage the involvement of people who can bring useful skills to the force on a voluntary basis as police support volunteers (PSVs)
- arranging NHP inspectors' and SPOC sergeants' meetings to enable officers to meet counterparts across the force, be updated on current issues and discuss local good practice
- helping to arrange a Neighbourhood Watch conference for Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators
- providing full updates to the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) prior to quarterly inspections
- liaising with Special Branch about community engagement
- monitoring and quality-assuring local engagement plans (LEPs) and district and neighbourhood profiles.

Helping you to solve community issues

THE Volume Crime portfolio is headed up by Insp Chris Willis, supported by Sgt Nathalie Carr and the force's senior architectural liaison officers (ALOs) John Hills and Heather Gurdin.

The team is currently working closely with Essex County Council (ECC), which is providing funding for ten policing operations over the next ten months as part of the ECC Pledge.

This money is being targeted at the locations where the most community impact can be achieved, ie where crime and anti-social behaviour can be reduced and so, ultimately, the community can feel safer and confident in addition to the force meeting crime reduction targets.

The project supports the government's move towards the 'confidence measure'.

With the current SARA Problem-Solving Database showing its age, the Volume Crime unit surveyed the district representatives and some users to establish what officers involved in problem-solving want to assist them in their role.

A program developed by Kent Police was identified and was the unanimous preference of the Problem-solving database forum – which consists of neighbourhood Pcs, sergeants and an inspector.

Now the Volume Crime team is working in earnest to deliver it for the use of neighbourhood specialist officers and PCSOs.

Insp Willis said: "The new program will be used to record problem-solving activity and, more importantly, it can assist in the actual problem-solving itself as it provides simple and straightforward good-practice suggestions and enables the sharing of ideas which work."

Working closely with Essex offers experienced in the use of video evidence and 'head-cams', or 'body-worn video', the unit is developing a procedure for their use.

Once approved by Chief Officers, this procedure will be publicised to allow for wider use of such technology.

Insp Willis said: "Not only do head-cams assist in combating and reducing crime, they can also streamline evidence-gathering, which saves officers time both in statement-writing and at court."

The ALOs' work is of key importance within the Volume Crime portfolio.

John and Heather liaise with planners around the county to ensure that schemes such as Secured by Design and Park Mark are implemented to ensure that both new and existing developments embrace sound crime prevention advice.

With the added challenge of the London 2012 Olympic Games, they are working to ensure that their expertise is shared with developers so that opportunities for criminals are minimised and communities can feel safer.



● Volume Crime sergeant Nathalie Carr with senior architectural liaison officers Heather Gurdin and John Hills, above

● Volume Crime inspector Chris Willis, right

ESSEX POLICE

HQ Territorial Policing

Supporting the delivery of excellence in policing

Neighbourhood Policing

Children and Young People

Volume Crime Reduction

Extended Policing Family

Architectural Liaison Officers

Substance Misuse

Helping you to police our communities

Information, guidance, support and toolkits

- find out how HQTP can help you

Visit the Territorial Policing intranet site

- listed under Divisions & Departments



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

TO Chief Supt Tim Newcomb: I would like you to know how grateful our family is for the care and attention given to my niece when she was raped.

It took great courage for her to come forward and she was greatly helped by one of your Clacton officers in particular, Dc Kevin Cooper.

The case came to court and resulted in a successful prosecution.

Throughout, the treatment she received was caring and sympathetic, particularly from Dc Cooper, and we would like you to give him our thanks.

**AG
Hartlepool**

TO Chief Insp Glenn Maleary: It has been six months since Pc Geoff Evans started as our Safer Schools Partnership officer and I wanted to let you know of the positive impact he has made to the school community.

Geoff has been brilliant since he started with us. He has gained the respect of staff and students alike.

He is a very visible presence and has been an extremely positive role-model for the police service in the eyes of our students.

He is trusted by them and has picked up a lot of information about issues in the local community.

He has helped us with a number of issues and has been involved in working with students and parents to keep students out of the criminal justice system.

His presence, along with support from PCSO Sharon Taylor, has been a really positive addition to the Boswells School community and we look forward to him building on this excellent relationship he has with us in the coming months.

**The Boswells School
Chelmsford**

TO acting Insp Craig Carrington:

Thank you for the prompt action from crime reduction officer Tony Ellis at Epping police station.

I am 70 and I live alone. My bungalow has been vandalised several times and I'd had enough. I rang 0300 333 4444 to talk to a policeman and a wonderful operator called Dot contacted Tony for me.

He was really helpful. He checked all the details of my problems and outlined exactly what he could do and suggested the way forward.

He was very clear and calm and, within a week, Pc Stacie Brown called to see me.

So I am most grateful to Tony Ellis.

**RC
Shenfield**

I WOULD like to say how outstanding Pc Ricky Rodd has been on a number of occasions.

He has been involved with several child protection cases and has acted with great sensitivity, assertiveness and

professionalism. Pc Rodd always identifies details of the case prior to acting and then always feeds back to the social worker any work undertaken.

The nature of our work is difficult but produces better outcomes for children when we are working with outstanding police officers such as Pc Rodd.

**First Contact Team
Southend Borough Council**

TO acting Insp Craig Carrington:

I just wanted to thank you for the part that the police played in our polo event.

It was a fairly relaxed day although the evening did bring a few small incidents, dealt with efficiently by both security and the police working together.

The Duke of Essex Polo event was a huge success and, as I understand it, a lot less troublesome than in previous years.

Well done to those at Essex Police who supported us throughout our time on site at Gaynes Park in Epping. We look forward to working with you again soon.

**Gainsborough Events
Management
Sawbridgeworth
Hertfordshire**

MY son went missing and every officer who came to my house was truly kind and understanding, especially our liaison officer Pc Adrian Ranson.

He kept us up to date with everything the police were doing in the search for my son.

When he was found, Pc

Ranson took me over to see him and that made me feel a lot better.

He took me over again so I could take my son some clean clothes.

I thank many officers but Pc Ranson was truly kind and treated us all with kindness and respect.

**CH
Stifford Clays**

TO temporary Chief Constable Andy Bliss:

We often hear in the media when the police service has missed something or made an error – and the headlines are often negative.

I wanted to write to convey our appreciation of the high-quality service we received from your team in the Brentwood area.

Following a break-in at our home in Ingatestone, two officers arrived within 60 minutes of our initial call and were courteous, understanding and thorough.

Scenes of Crime arrived an hour later and officers were again, efficient, polite and understanding.

The following evening a detective arrived and, in following up, was professional, empathetic and informative. And yesterday the Victim Support pack arrived.

The break-in was upsetting and frustrating but our experience of the excellent service from Essex Police was first class.

The officers are to be commended for getting on with their work effectively, efficiently and professionally.

**AM
Ingatestone**

I WOULD like to thank police at Grays, especially Pc Karen Pownall for helping me with an incident.

I found Pc Pownall to be very professional, understanding and caring in this matter.

She reassured me and made me feel confident in the choices I was making. Not once did I feel as though I was just 'another domestic'.

Pc Pownall kept me well informed on developments and advised me on the next steps which I wanted to take.

I would no longer hesitate in contacting the authorities in future as I have done before.

**CM
Grays**

TO Chief Insp Glen Westley: I am a member of Neighbourhood Watch in Westcliff on Sea.

The area under my jurisdiction is policed by PCSOs and officers on a regular basis, which keeps the public feeling secure, safe and well looked after by dedicated officers.

Your Neighbourhood Policing style is a credit to you and the officers concerned.

I would be grateful if you would commend them for the splendid job that they do in creating a feeling of safety and security in our homes.

**JP
Westcliff on Sea**

TO Chief Supt Tim Newcomb: I want to let you know that my family and I are so grateful for all the help and consideration your officers Dc Lee Pollard, Dc Richard Edwards, Ds Stephen Jennings and Dc Jim Finnigan gave to us while we were in Colchester to see my son, who was in intensive care

at Colchester General Hospital, following a very serious attack.

We can't thank them enough. I don't know what we would have done without them. They went out of their way to do all they could for us. You should be proud of your officers.

**ER
Harthiel
North Lanarkshire**

MY husband and I would like to offer our praise and grateful thanks to Pc Julie Boyce and Pc Alun Causaker, who attended an incident of fly-tipping on our land.

My husband confronted the suspects while I called the police. The two officers promptly attended, with a dog handler and two other police personnel.

We have given statements to Pc Boyce and find her extremely helpful and professional. She has been painstaking in her gathering of evidence and we feel that her dedicated approach to her work should be recognised.

We realise policing has changed radically over the past decade and are aware that there is sometimes criticism of the police but I was extremely pleased to see your officers and was impressed with the way the matter was handled.

**FT
Rettondon**

TO Chief Supt Keith Garnish: Thank you for your help and support for the Castle Point Armed Forces Day on June 27, which was a magnificent success.

Your officers were very courteous and kind at all times and organised things magnificently.

Your contribution helped to make it the success that it was and, on behalf of all the people of Castle Point and all our veterans and Armed Forces, I sincerely thank you for your kind help.

Bob Spink MP

TO Chief Supt Maurice Mason: I felt I must write in praise and admiration of Pc Sean Judge.

I am the owner/operator of a car boot sale. We have a policeman in attendance on a private-hire basis.

Unfortunately, when Pc Judge was on duty, a young man collapsed. Pc Judge was nearby and, without hesitation, he gave the man first aid mouth-to-mouth.

He tried very hard to save the man's life.

The public on the site also expressed great admiration for him.

The fashion these days is to knock the police. If the police are of the calibre of Pc Judge, no-one would have anything to fear.

**PS
Basildon**

TO Chief Supt Tim Newcomb: Thank you for replying to my previous letters about the two dangerous dogs who attacked my young son.

In response, you sent a good officer, PCSO Wayne Burke, to investigate.

PCSO Burke carried out an investigation and has explained to us that the dog owners have been given a warning.

He says the owners have claimed that they will muzzle the dogs and control them better in the future. I must

thank PCSO Burke for the way he handled the incident. He is a credit to the police service.

**JW
Frinton on Sea**

PC Adam Markham came to see me to take a statement about damage to my garden wall.

I found him very polite and he made me feel at ease.

People are quick to criticise these days and so I thought I would write to say thank you.

**BB
Hullbridge**

TO Chief Insp Glenn Maleary: Pc Dawn Rowan has been working with us this academic year and I want to let you know how delighted we have been with the work she has done here.

Everyone who has come into contact with her would say the contribution she is making has helped us to 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 for us.

I want personally to thank you for allowing Dawn to work with us.

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

We look forward to continuing this very successful relationship.

**Chelmer Valley High School
Broomfield**

TO Insp Kevin Wakefield: Thank you very much for the support you and Sgt Mick Aston provided for the 33 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) Freedom Parade through Saffron Walden.

It was an absolutely brilliant day and much fun was had by the soldiers, their families and the local community.

The event was very well policed and I would like you to pass on the thanks of the regiment to all officers on duty that day.

Thanks also for all your efforts in the run-up to the event – we wouldn't have been able to do without you.

**33 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal)
Wimbish**

TO acting Insp Nick Hurst: My wife, who is suffering from early stage dementia, went missing and I rang the police after she had been gone for two hours. I can only describe the police response as brilliant.

You responded immediately and I felt that the officers who dealt with the situation – Sgt Mark Cadd, Pc Stuart Smith, Pc Andrew Thurlow, PCSO Belinda Ford and PCSO Terrie Johnson – really cared and that nothing was too much trouble.

**CB
Braintree**

I WOULD like to thank Pc Emma Wright, who assisted me in Southend when my purse was stolen in a shop.

Pc Wright was most helpful and kind and I wish her success in her career.

And thank you to all your staff who contacted my local police station, who sent PCSOs round when I got home.

**JT
South Woodham Ferrers**



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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
 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-officers asked for help in new case

I AM investigating an allegation of serious assault dating back to the late 1970s and am looking to trace any officers who were based at Billericay police station in either 1976 or 1977.

I need to contact them in order to piece together various aspects of my investigation, which was only reported recently.

Please can those retired officers contact me at Billericay police station on 0300 333 4444 ext 387140.

Dc Stuart Minihane
Billericay CID

Former officer has died Down Under

I WOULD like to inform readers of *The Law* of the death of former Pc Mick Rogers, who died at his home in Robigana, Tasmania, in April.

Mick was a good friend and colleague of mine. He was latterly stationed as a police dog handler on Brentwood Division and spent a number of years with me at Collier Row, shortly before the transfer of Romford to the Metropolitan Police in 1964.

I have full contact details for his wife Maureen and family, all of whom emigrated to Tasmania in 1969, and would be happy to advise any former friends and colleagues who would like to send a card etc.

Please contact me on 07966 256159 or through Essex Police Choir, of which I am a regular supporter.

Gerry Lambert
Deal
Kent

It's time for the Thurrock get-together

CALLING all Thurrock serving and retired officers – it's that time of year again and on Friday, October 9, the annual Thurrock reunion evening will take place in the bar at Grays Police Station.

This years event will be made that little bit special, by the appearance of one William Marr, known affectionately as 'Bill' by his friends.

Bill is an ex-pat living in Spain so, those of you who served with him, please make an effort to call in and see him.

The reunion will start at 7.30pm and a sumptuous buffet will be provided.

So, I hope to see you there for a convivial evening with old friends, 'swinging the lamp' and sinking a few 'cold ones'.

For more details, contact me on 07909 985343.

Laurie Rampling
Stanford le Hope

Support was appreciated

I WISH to thank all who sent condolences following the sudden death of Police Dog Spud.

Spud became well known during his eight years service with the force and will be sadly missed. Every handler reckons their dog to be the best and I am no exception.

Spud loved to work. Especially fond of tracking, both his first and last 'prisoners' were tracking prisoners ie those we arrested through Spud's tracking abilities.

He qualified as a tactical firearms dog, deploying into danger areas wearing a camera to relay information back, then he qualified for deployment by helicopter and was the first dog conveyed in our current aircraft.

Spud had many property finds where forensics led to arrests, including those of a gang of robbers who, having fired shots, hid a cash box in a ditch.

On another search, Spud dug up jewellery buried by a burglar, who was duly arrested.

Spud saved at least two lives on separate occasions and was awarded a Commendation following his help in the arrest of a man wanted for two attempted murders. Elsewhere Spud tracked a man armed with a knife after an attempted murder and located him hiding in a field.

In Harlow he located a burglar in a freezing river who, paralysed with cold, would probably have perished if he had not been found.

Spud helped me to arrest many who would otherwise have escaped or offered



● Pc
Simon
Conquest
with Police
Dog Spud
in his
kennel

serious resistance to a solo officer.

Once, while I was unconscious and with head strikes continuing, Spud got stuck in and detained my assailant. I was hospitalised but were it not for Spud things could have been worse.

Spud also tackled a person assaulting me from behind during a burglary arrest and another time he pinned one of two people wanted for assault causing grievous bodily harm against a wall whilst I tackled the other.

In Basildon, Spud detained a burglar who threatened officers with an axe and he

also supported me when I was once being threatened with a hand gun – the gunman backed down rather than tackle Spud.

Sadly, Spud fell into coma and died naturally from cancer that had grown without showing any symptoms. His ashes will be laid to rest in his favourite 'sunning' spot in the garden where he was to have retired next month.

I am lucky to have worked with Spud, who will be very sadly missed by me and my family.

Pc Simon Conquest
Laindon Dog Section

Thanks for the honour of bravery nomination



● Pc Steve Fisk with temporary
Chief Constable Andy Bliss

Picture by Robert Soanes

AS the Essex Police nomination for the Police Federation and Sun newspaper sponsored 2009 National Police Bravery Awards, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people involved for their part in it.

Firstly, may I thank Chief Supt Dave Folkard and the South Eastern Division command team for their handling and support in this matter, which resulted in a Letter of Congratulations from the Chief Constable.

I would especially like to thank Chief Insp Tony Rayner and Marian Godwin, of Essex Police Federation, who not only nominated me for this prestigious award but organised and arranged everything so, literally, all I had to do was turn up

and enjoy a fantastic day, which included a reception and tour of 10 Downing Street and meeting Prime Minister Gordon Brown and Home Secretary Alan Johnson.

It culminated in a splendid awards dinner the same evening at the Dorchester Hotel where I was also joined by temporary Chief Constable Andy Bliss, who had managed to find time in his busy schedule to attend.

During the dinner I met many celebrities from the world of entertainment and media and it was quite heart-warming to find they were all so 'pro' police and so enthusiastic about these awards, which recognise police officers' efforts.

Every nominee received a superb personalised trophy and other souvenir items which rounded off a great evening.

Pc Steve Fisk
South Eastern divisional skills trainer

Remembering the way it was

ESSEX Police Community Service Branch (CSB) was launched in 1979 – the brainchild of then Chief Constable Robert Bunyard and the person responsible for implementing his idea, Supt Geoffrey Markham, later assistant chief constable.

It was such a new, innovative way of policing we were all pushing back established frontiers, especially in the way we dealt with the thorny subject of children and adults at risk and there was a comprehensive schools input, which merged into the existing school and exam system. And this was all under one umbrella, throughout Essex.

The CSB disappeared some years ago but many of its principles are still in use in Essex Police today, although all the original CSB officers have now retired.

In June, almost 40 former CSB officers, of all ranks, met again at the Essex Police Sports Pavilion at HQ.

Many had not met each other for over 20 years but it was amazing how the old CSB teams gelled again as old friendships were renewed and news of former colleagues exchanged.

After a few words from Mr Markham and Sir Robert and a lunch which included a specially-made Essex Police cake, we recalled former colleagues no longer with us, our exploits and successes and the odd failure.

The Law played a huge part in finding former CSB officers so a big thank you to the editor for her help.

It was good to see so many former officers meeting not on a training or refresher course, as so often was the way then, but informally, as friends.

We may meet up again at future HQ events such as the Pensioners' Garden Party and the Comrades Association functions.

And a suggestion was made that we meet once more as a group on the 50th anniversary, in 2029.

If any former CSB officers would like to contact old CSB colleagues, please contact me at tomdeans@btinternet.com and I will try to help.

Tom Deans
Westcliff on Sea

Do former Marines want a reunion?

I WAS at the annual Pensioners' Garden Party last month and by chance recognised a former colleague's Special Boat Section (SBS) Royal Marines Special Forces blazer badge.

He was an SBS Frogman, during World War Two.

I meet a few other retired Essex Police officers who were former Royal Marines at the twice-yearly Comrades Association annual buffet lunch meetings and the old pre-1965 Metropolitan Police takeover Romford Division reunions from time-to-time and I recently found out there is now an ex-Royal Marine currently serving with the force.

Are any serving or retired Essex Police officers who are former Royal Marines interested in meeting up for a mini-Royal Marines reunion lunch or similar?

They can contact me on 07713 956481 or via hughesmike1411@googlemail.com

Mike Hughes
Brentwood

Rehabilitation centre worked wonders for me

HAVING just returned from the Police Rehabilitation Centre in Oxfordshire, after treatment following spinal surgery, I must fully endorse the comments of Ray Skillin in the June issue of *The Law*.

Flint House in Goring is a wonderful establishment and the treatment is second to none. There is a state-of-the-art physiotherapy department, gym, pool and spa and all therapists are fully qualified.

There are registered nurses on duty 24/7 and a menu that you would only otherwise find in a top restaurant.

I cannot fault the service and treatment I received.

But, if you do not subscribe to the Essex Police Benevolent Fund, you will not qualify to use the facilities now or when you retire.

Take the advice of a pensioner and join now.

Ted Howell
Corringham



● **Geoffrey Markham** and
Sir Robert Bunyard at the
CSB reunion

Holiday lets

COSTA Blanca, La Marina, two-bedroom, two-bathroom villa. Sleeps four to six, communal pool, beach seven minutes, shops/bars five minutes. From £200 per week plus police discount. Ring Mick Ager on 07775 676142 or email casado-mi02@hotmail.com

FRANCE enjoy an affordable family holiday this year. Just three hours drive from Essex, nicely furnished Gites for couples or families in beautiful French countryside Ring 01375 483045 or visit www.le-petit-hameau.com

FRANCE Le Pas. Converted stone bread oven with beams and wood-burner, quiet location. Sleeps 2-4, five hours from Calais. £175/wk. Call Emma 07711421579 email matt.smith1973@btinternet.com

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

FLORIDA. Luxury villa 4 bed, private pool cable TV, free Wi-Fi, free UK calls, games room. Disney 10 mins. We only rent to friends and colleagues. For information, contact Mary 01245 465 690, 07971482022 maryjane66@hotmail.co.uk

FLORIDA villa, sleeps six. 15 minutes from Disney. Own pool with free electric heat. Backs on to woods in a secluded location. Wi-fi. See www.hardysfloridavilla.co.uk

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

LANZAROTE, Costa Teguse. New two twin-bed, one-bath apartment. Kitchen, large dining room/lounge, large terrace for sunbathing and alfresco dining. Ring Karen or Chris McAulay on 01625 431373 or 07881 614045 or visit www.lanzarotesun.net

PRIVATE villa, self-catering accommodation, sleeps six – three bedrooms, one en suite. Own pool. Southern Spain – Malaga Airport, Marbella coast 25 mins. Visit www.villapasatiempo.com or email taylor@villapasatiempo.com

SIDE, Turkey. Luxury ground-floor two-bedroom, two-bathroom holiday apartments to rent on 5* complex. Pools, gym and tennis. Near beach and local amenities. Contact Matt on 07957 151820 or visit www.oasisturkey.net

SOUTH Africa 2010 World Cup, Luxury self catering accommodation, restaurant and pub, large discounts available, contact D Price at d.price@mapri.co.uk or 07969744427 quoting POL1.

TUSCANY, Italy. Gorgeous mountain retreat. Beautifully located rustic, romantic medieval village house. Stunning views. Near Pisa, Florence and Riviera. Full weeks or long weekends. Phone 07976 720022.

Weddings

PHOTOGRAPHY by Barrie White-Miller LRPS. Weddings and Civil Partnerships. Portfolio and details at www.spearmanphotography.co.uk telephone 07766970771 or email barrie.w-m@hotmail.co.uk

ROLLS Royce wedding car hire. Extra special service for your special day. Police discount available. Call Peter on 07791601591, email info@rrweddings.co.uk or visit www.rrweddings.co.uk

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

For sale

EXERCISE bike £25, travel cot £15 and mahogany fireplace surround, electric bars, convector fitted £45 ONO, contact Mr. Rogerson on 01245 268314.

LAPTOP HP.G7090, nine months old, Windows Vista, Premium Intel Celeron 160GB 1GB DVD RW webcam 15'4 boxed instructions, vgc, £220 ono. Ring 07788 120985.

For rent

GARAGE for rent long/short-term. Suitable for car etc or storage. At end of long, private drive, not overlooked. Shoeburyness, good terms contact Anita Bryant on 01702 297831.

HOUSE share in Rayne near Braintree, two rooms available £320 pcm inclusive of all bills, available from September 2009. Contact Peter Orpe on 01376 344 664.

COTTAGE for rent. Barrells Down Road, Bishops Stortford. Beautiful two-bedroom Victorian cottage. Parking and garden. Part furnished. Available now. References and deposit required. Non-smoking £795 pcm phone 07976 720022.

Tribute to serving officer killed abroad

TRIBUTE has been paid to an officer who died while on holiday in South Africa.

Pc **Paul Woodward** was involved in a road traffic collision in Johannesburg while driving with his brother and his brother's girlfriend last month.

Pc Woodward, of Laindon and Basildon Neighbourhood Support Team, leaves a partner, Sc Sarah Farrow, of South Western Division.

Basildon district commander Chief Insp Simon Dobinson said: "Albeit young in service, Paul was a highly-motivated and capable officer who was keen to progress within the police service."

"He was very popular amongst his colleagues due to his outgoing nature and keen sense of humour. He will be sorely missed by all those he worked with, not just at Laindon but throughout Essex Police."

Pc Woodward's funeral was held in South Africa, where his father and some relatives reside. His ashes are due to be scattered in the Kruger National Park next month.

Friends and colleagues were invited to attend a memorial service at St Mary Magdalene Church, Great Burstead, on August 7.

Former Southend Borough sergeant and centenarian **Alf Roper** has died, aged 101.

Mr Roper, of Benfleet, served Southend on Sea County Borough Constabulary between 1930 and 1955, receiving two Chief Constable's Commendations and a court commendation during his career.

In January 2008, Mr Roper celebrated his 100th birthday surrounded by family and friends. He and his wife Vera – who died in 2001 – had two sons, four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

He moved to Southend from London's East End as a baby, when his father, a Salvation Army insurance rep, was moved to the seaside resort.

His funeral service took place at the Salvation Army Citadel in Southend. Donations in his memory may be sent c/o Tanners Funeral Directors, Essex Lodge, 26 East Street, Southend on Sea – the charity to benefit has yet to be decided.

Ex-superintendent **George Tame**, of Black Notley, has died, aged 87. He leaves a widow, Margaret.

Mr Tame served Essex Police between 1946 and 1977 at Gidea Park, Romford, Upminster, Brentwood, Grays, Harlow and Chelmsford.

Former superintendent **Ronald Canham**, of Frinton on Sea, has died, aged 87. He leaves a widow, Mary.

Mr Canham served from 1947 to 1977 at Saffron Walden, Leaden Roding, Takeley, Clacton, Chelmsford and Basildon.

Donations may be made in his memory to Macmillan Nurses and sent c/o PG Oxley funeral directors, 43-47 High Street, Walton on the Naze CO14 8BE.

Former sergeant **Roger Clough**, of Chelmsford, has died, aged 65. He leaves a widow, Marion.

Mr Clough served the force from March 1963 to May 1992 at Laindon, HQ Driving School and Chelmsford Traffic.

Donations may be made in his memory to Marie Curie Cancer Care and sent c/o M Lucking funeral directors, 195 New London Road, Chelmsford.

Former constable **Eric Caley**, of Chappel, has died,

Ex-Southend Borough officer dies, aged 101

aged 83. He leaves a widow, June. He served with the force between 1948 and 1973 at Copford, Clacton and Jaywick.

Donations may be made in his memory to Essex Police Benevolent Fund and sent c/o R Gwinnell & Sons, funeral directors, 112 Ipswich Road, Colchester, CO4 0AA.

Ex-constable **Varnell Brooks**, of Brentwood, has died, aged 79. He served Essex Police from 1955 to 1982 at Basildon and Brentwood.

Former constable **Robert Thurston**, of Portslade in Sussex, has died, aged 77.

Mr Thurston served from 1961 with Sussex Police and then transferred to Essex and served at Tilbury, South Ockendon and Grays, retiring in 1986.

Ex-constable **Norman Redmond**, of Canvey Island, has died, aged 71. He leaves a widow, Peggy.

Mr Redmond served from 1967 to 1993 at Basildon, Laindon, Canvey, Brentwood in the Community Service Branch.

Moves

Castle Point district commander Chief Insp **Paul Eveleigh** has been seconded to Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) as a temporary superintendent until next May

His post is being filled for that time by Chief Insp **Keith Davies**, who moves over from the Protective Services Improvement Team (PSIT), based at Great Dunmow. And **Denise Morrissey**, of Harlow CID, will take over as head of PSIT as temporary DCI.

Retirements

Custody sergeant **Philip Barrett**, 54, retires this month after 30 years with the force. Sgt Barrett served on South Eastern Division during his career.

Pc **Tim Thoday**, 59, retires at the end of this month after serving Essex Police for more than 34 years.

Pc Thoday, has served at Harlow, Harlow and Newport Traffic and at Newport, Bocking and Dunmow road policing units.

Pc **Paul Chesney**, 55, is retiring after serving with the force for 24 years – he joined Essex Police after spending almost seven years in the Armed Forces.

Pc Chesney has served at Basildon and Chelmsford, in Laindon, Orsett and Rochford dog sections, at Southend and, finally, in Communications Division.

Dc **Stephen Armson-Smith**, 52, is retiring after serving the force for just over 30 years. He has been stationed at Chelmsford.

And Pc **Cindy Lambert**, 49, retired last month after more than 30 years' service.

She served at Harlow, Brentwood, HQ Major Investigation Team and Major Investigation Centralised Administration and Support (MICAS), Chigwell and Communications Division.

Former officer celebrates his century



● Former Essex officer Michael Connolly surrounded by his six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren at his 100th birthday party

FORMER Essex Police constable Michael Connolly celebrated his 100th birthday last month.

He joined the force in 1935 and was posted to the traffic department. For the six years prior to joining, he had been a chauffeur in the Army.

He was briefly recalled to the services between 1939 and 1941 but rejoined the force in 1941.

His daughter Janette Gibson, of Galleywood, said: "Dad was an excellent police driver for more than 25 years, stationed at Essex Police HQ and then Saffron Walden before returning to HQ."

"He was a good sportsman and represented the force at swimming, snooker, tennis and, most successfully, at bowls."

After his retirement from the force in 1963, Mr Connolly worked as a civilian in the Statistics Office at HQ until he was 65.

For the past three years he has lived happily in Walton on the Naze and still keeps fit.

He had a 100th birthday party in Kirby le Soken and amongst his cards was a special one from the Queen.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE – ONE WORD PER BOX

Name and rank:

Station: Home tel:

Date: Signed:

Send to The Editor, The Law, Internal Communications, Essex Police HQ.
 ● Advertisers should be aware that *The Law* is now published on the internet and any telephone numbers given will be in the public domain. No internal or direct-dial work phone numbers should be given as contacts in the adverts.
 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.



Footballers searching for talent

BOTH Essex Police FC – who play in the Braintree and North Essex Sunday League – and Essex Police Veterans – who will be competing in the Saturday afternoon Greene King Veterans' League Division 2 East and mid-week PSUK football competitions – are on the lookout for new players.

Both sides are looking to add to their squads and need committed individuals to strengthen their sides who are prepared to give 100 per cent.

Football section secretary Gary Heard said: "The only way to drive the club forward is for police staff and officers who play for other sides to come and give the police team a go and be proud to wear the club badge – Essex Police FC has a long and proud tradition."

The Sunday side have just started pre-season training at HQ and they hope to have three friendly matches this month prior to the season's start next month.

• For further details visit the Essex Police FC website at www.essexpolicefootball-club.co.uk or www.essex-veterans-league.co.uk

• If you are interested in playing for the Sunday League side, contact Gary Heard or Aaron Heard by email or ring the football mobile on 07908 117474

• If you want to play for the Vets side – you must be aged 35 or over – email Ray O'Hare, Joe Wrigley or Gary Heard or ring the football mobile on 07908 117474

Essex lead fly-fishing league

THE latest eastern region fly-fishing competition was held at Grafham Water in Cambridgeshire on one of the hottest days of the year – fish were very hard to find in the bright sunshine.

And visibility was down to 12ft, which again gave the fish even more opportunity to see the anglers and the boats and stay well away. Most anglers opted for the back drift method, using a variety of different lines to control depth and differing flies.

The odd purist used a floating line and buzzers but the rewards were scant and the occasional fish taken using loch style tactics seemed reliant upon placing the fly on the nose of a fish.

Fish did show in the afternoon around the dam wall and it was from this area that the winning bags were taken with Suffolk A taking the top placings.

Essex A came in a creditable second place with Norfolk B taking third.

Cambridgeshire, consisting of only one angler, came fourth.

Currently Essex A are first in the league with Norfolk A in second place and Essex B in third. Essex currently hold the top five individual positions.



• Luke Collison and Pam Johnson, from South Eastern Division, receive the Croker Cup from Michelle Dunn, of Central Division, and EPSA chairman Derek Benson

South Eastern get their hands on Croker Cup at last

LAST season's Croker Cup winners were presented with their trophies at the Essex Police Sports Association (EPSA) annual meeting.

South Eastern Division received their trophy from Derek Benson, chairman of the EPSA, and Central

divisional commander Michelle Dunn.

Central Division had won the Croker Cup competition for the previous six years.

And they didn't give in easily last season, taking South Eastern right to

the wire – South Eastern won by three points.

Central divisional commander Michelle Dunn received the runners-up trophy on behalf of the division, again from Mr Benson.

Luke Pipe

New and old talent achieves a fourth

ESSEX Police sent a strong and hopeful team to this year's PSUK National Athletics and Tug of War championships in Doncaster.

And they were not disappointed, gaining fourth place overall in the medals table.

The Croker Cup athletics competition back in May unearthed some new talent, to the delight of Essex captain Del Walker, and these competitors were available for the nationals.

Essex were also defending their tug of war titles.

With Croker Cup 100m men's winner Paul Sheldrake a late injury withdrawal, the 100m was left for Kerry Freeman, who finishing joint fifth in the first heat.

Anthony Sharman took on the 200m, riding the curb well to finish in fifth place in 27 seconds in his heat.

Lisa Wiggins impressed in the 400m to finish in fourth place. She went on to contest the 800m, finishing in 2mins 56secs

Double act Dan Sorrell and Will Cubbin ran well together in the men's 800m.

Sorrell crossed the line in 2mins 18.8secs and fourth place. Cubbin was

next over the line in 2mins 23.5secs.

The men's 5,000m saw five Essex athletes compete. In their national debuts, Daniel Corr led the way with Scott Oxley running with confidence close behind. Captain Walker finished ahead of newcomer Gavin Timms and seasoned campaigner Mike Monkton. Times were 18:40.9, 19:06.0, 19:13.4, 21:11 and 22:36.5 respectively

In the Vets 5km race, John Jackson claimed bronze medal with a time of 19:17.8, with Don English close behind in 19:48.5 and John Mackenzie in 21:31.7.

In the long jump Anthony Sharman, at his second nationals, leapt to 5.19m, while, in the triple jump, Freeman performed well and improved from her efforts at the Croker Cup.

The high jump saw Cubbin in competition in the second of his events of the day.

Steve King was hoping for gold in the 3,000m walk but had to settle for silver.

Chelmsford AC thrower and coach Shirley Quinn was back in action in the discus competition and threw 30.94m to take fourth place.

She raised her game in the hammer and claimed third place with a throw of 31.12m. New to the Essex team, Sophie Hammonds, under Quinn's coaching,

threw 17.58m to finish in fifth.

Amanda Lilleker, who debuted at the shot putt at the Croker Cup – throwing 6.61m – and again coached by Quinn, secured a bronze medal, with a throw of 8.34m.

The day's athletics ended as usual with the relay races.

In the women's 4x100m, Wiggins was the first-leg runner, handing over to Lilleker, who passed the baton to Hammond waiting on the final bend. The anchor leg was down to Freeman to bring home the team for a bronze medal.

The men ran a medley relay of 800m, 200m, 200m and 400m. They were led off by Corr who ran a strong two laps before handing over to Walker for the first of 200m legs. Sharman held Essex in sight of a medal finish and it was left to Cubbin who ran a controlled 400m to secure the silver spot.

Fronted by Skelly Lambert and Steve Tyrrell, the Essex tuggers took gold in all four weights on the tug of war field. Essex fielded A and B teams in the catchweight, 720kg and 680kg competitions and one team in the 640kg.

Making a comeback, Richard Wardleworth, with new-comers Ryan Whitear, Simon Owen, Keith Hewitt and Jay Barnes grabbed a bronze in the 720kg B team.

CID man 'drives away' lottery car prize

CHELMSFORD CID's Pc Arran Holmes 'drove' away with an £8,000 Hyundai i20 after winning the July force lottery draw.

Winner of the £3,000 cheque was Pc Daniel Stanberry, of Southend Central Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT), Sc Jon King, of Dunmow, won the £1,000 cheque and Jenna McKinley, of Harlow Central NPT, takes home the £500 prize. Winners of the £100 prizes were:

Sgt Jason Snow, of Halstead NPT; Valerie Whitchurch, of Basildon; Karen Puttock, of Essex Police College; Pc

Jamie Willetts, of Rochford NPT; Derek Coster, of Thurrock; Albert Horne, retired; Dc Cherie Hilton, of HQ Scenes of Crime; Sgt Lee Noakes, of Brentwood Neighbourhood Support Team (NST); Sgt Paul Costin, of Laindon and Basildon NPT; Hazel Copeland, of Rayleigh Criminal Justice Unit; Pc Emily Freeman, of Brentwood; and Jenny Pealling, of Financial Services. Winners of the £50 prizes were: Margaret Crowe, of Southend; Pc Brian Ganly, of Basildon; Pc Matthew Crow, of Stanway Road Policing Unit; Jenny

Fisher, of Essex Police College; Douglas Adams, retired; Sgt Fergus Caulfield, of Pitsea NPT; Rebecca Claremont, of Corporate Development; Miss Jenny Shearman, of the Road Crash Investigation Team; Toni Pitt, of the Mounted Unit; Steven Rawlings, retired; Barry Bright, retired; Pc Jordan Pascal, of Tilbury/Corringham NST; Mark Spellman, of Professional Standards; Pc Kevin Thomas, of the Force Support Unit; Lynda Campbell, of Harlow; and Pc Robert Gillespie, of Essex Police College.

Memories of days gone by with EPMS

THE time has come again for the bi-annual Essex Police Musical Society (EPMS) concert.

Next month's production is called *Memories are made of this*.

It focuses on early 20th century tunes, with chorus singing, dance routines, slow and sensitive love songs, comedy and the drama of solos and duets.

There will be golden oldies such as *Baby Face*, *Chicago*, *Oh you beautiful doll*, *Button up your overcoat*, *Making Whoopee* and *Oh Susanna*.

Since the last show in April, within the EPMS team of 45, a number of changes have been made.

Lynda Barkway has stepped down as chairman and been declared President of the society, which she said made her "very proud".

George Lambeth is the new chairman, Sally Summers is vice-chairman, Paul Walker is treasurer and Claire Lambeth is secretary.

As usual for its September production, EPMS will set out tables and chairs for the audience.

• The show runs from Wednesday, September 9, to Saturday, September 12, with performances at 7.30pm each night at the Assembly Hall at Essex Police HQ.

Tickets cost £7, with some of the proceeds going to local charities

• Call the box office line on 07867 851355 or download a booking form at www.essex.police.uk/musicalsociety

• To become a member of EPMS, there is a £10 joining fee and it costs £20 for single membership and £25 for double. Contact Sally Summers on 0300 333 4444 ext 480648, Lynda Barkway on ext 50739 or Peter Buckley on ext 50893

Laura Spring

Sea-angling triumphs

THE Croker Cup sea-angling competition was held out of Leigh on Sea.

Thirty five anglers left Bell Wharf in an easterly wind.

The competition is based on a species hunt – the more species caught the better the score and 187 fish were caught with nine different species, including smooth hound, thornback ray, bass, dogfish, whiting, pouting and a gurnard.

Dave Ware (Central A) led the way with 155 points; then came Simon Clarke (HQ A), 123; Tim Hills (Central B) 121; Martin Hatfield (Western) 104; Paul Bartlett (Central A) 98; and John Butcher (Eastern) 96.

Croker Cup results were: 1. Central A 10 points; 2. South Eastern B 12; 3. HQ A 15; 4. Western 19; 5. Eastern 23; 6. Central B 23; 7. South Eastern A 24; 8. HQ B 24; 9. South Western 27.

The sea angling section's top angler of the year was Tim Hills, of Central Division.



● Mosque chairman Abdul Gaffur and Pc Lee Palmer play the part of investigators during the ACT NOW community engagement day in Rayne
Picture by Nishan Wijeratne

Communities ACT NOW

BRAINTREE played host to the county's first community engagement day in which members of the public joined forces with the police to understand counter-terrorist policing operations.

Representatives from the local district council, independent advisory group and the local mosque participated in a table-top exercise based on an explosion in a fictional town.

They played the role of operational and senior police officers as the investigation developed.

Neighbourhood policing officers were on hand at Rayne Village Hall to share their experiences and knowledge with others. Sgt Nick Hurst said he was delighted with the enthusiasm and commitment from both the local Asian community and Braintree District Council in making the day a success.

"This event is vital in securing the support of residents and people from minority backgrounds when such terrorist events occur," said Sgt Hurst.

"It was very useful to hear a multitude of views, which certainly broadened everyone's minds, but it was also important for us to ensure that all sections of the community

understand our operational and strategic decisions throughout such incidents."

An important and big aspect of modern-day terrorist operations is media management. A mock news conference and participants were quizzed by a force press officer who took on the role of a journalist, enabling them to appreciate and empathise with the pressures faced by police officers when confronted with hostile and challenging questions.

Braintree Mosque manager and community leader Abdul Gaffur said: "Taking part gave us an insight into the kinds of decisions the police have to make in extreme situations and will ultimately give us all a better understanding of counter-terrorism procedures.

"It demonstrated how agencies and communities can work together to defeat terrorism."

The ACT (All Communities Together) NOW roadshow will eventually visit all towns throughout Essex, with the newly-formed community engagement team playing a core role in its delivery.

Essex Police is one of the first forces to implement such an exercise for its residents.

Long prison terms in two murder trials

TWO men were last month each sentenced to serve 12 years in jail in two separate trials.

In the first, James Pearson, 46, of Benfleet, had been found guilty at Chelmsford Crown Court of murdering Daniel Berry, 33.

Pearson stabbed Mr Berry last October following an argument.

Senior investigating officer Det Supt Tim Wills said: "This case demonstrates how people find it all too easy to pick up a knife, and find their actions have an irreversible outcome.

After the case, the family said: "We would like to send our thanks and appreciation, to all involved, for their endless support and tireless work."

At the same court, Michael Leahy pleaded guilty to murder and was sentenced to serve a minimum of 12 years.

In August last year at his father William's Colchester flat, Leahy assaulted his father, aged 56, who died from his injuries.

Huge rise in ANPR arrests during trial

THE Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) Desk in the Force Information Room has been delighted with a huge rise in 'hits' and resulting prisoners over a six-month trial period.

The dedicated ANPR Desk was set up last December and is responsible for monitoring and circulating the details of vehicles which have activated ANPR 'hotlist' alarms.

The trial finished at the end of May but the ANPR Desk is continuing, although its function is still under review.

Control room supervisor Matt Hine – who was the ANPR project manager – said: "Whilst only a small minority of people commit crime, these criminals need to drive and often their cars are carrying tools for going equipped, have on board the proceeds of a crime or are used for drug dealing.

"The same individuals are also known to drive without a valid driving licence, whilst disqualified or uninsured, or without road tax or MoT," he said.

"There is no getting away from the fact that the ANPR cameras are an excellent tool for tracking transient criminals in Essex."

During the trial, 5,864 incidents were created on the STORM command and control system following vehicles triggering an 'alarm' on the ANPR 'hotlist' – this was a 60 per cent increase on the six month-period before the trial started.

by Helen Cook

And the number of vehicles circulated doubled from 2,872 to 5,741, which resulted in a 234 per cent increase in the number of vehicles stopped.

This in turn led to arrests nearly tripling during the six months from 133 to 370.

The ANPR Desk aided the recovery of 68 stolen vehicles and 167 seized vehicles for no insurance. Staff submitted 30 CID 61s and have created 13 intelligence packages for the ANPR intercept teams resulting in further arrests for burglary and a multiple fraudster.

The ANPR Desk also can add vehicles quickly to the ANPR system and this invaluable facility has resulted in four high risk missing people being located quickly. The desk has also assisted in road policing operations with further arrests and seizures.

Mr Hine added: "The ANPR Desk takes about 25 calls a day from officers asking for ANPR checks or vehicles to be added, which is excellent but I do feel that they are not using it to the best of its ability.

"They are welcome to contact the desk for more details of how ANPR can help in the detection of crime, to let us know if they have people or vehicles to add to the ANPR 'hotlist' or if they have investigations we might be able to help with."

● Officers can contact the ANPR Desk on ext 53932 or on 01245 452525 or email FIR - ANPR Team. The desk is usually staffed between 8am and 2am

Appointments to authority after elections

THE re-appointments and elections of members of Essex Police Authority took place last month.

Robert Chambers remains as chairman and Neil Macdonald remains as vice-chairman.

Essex Police Authority (EPA) also welcomes the re-appointment of Paul Bishop – an existing independent member – for a further period of four years.

Three new members have now joined the authority, following the local elections on June 7: Wendy Herd, representing Thurrock Unitary Authority and Essex county councillors John Aldridge and Simon Walsh.

● For an up-to-date list of all police authority members and staff, contact EPA press and PR officer Jenna Smith on ext 50637 or email her at jenna.smith@essex.pnn.police.uk

If you have a story for The Law, ring editor Heather Turner on ext 54337

Successful conference used as national model

POLICE offers and their counterparts from partner agencies throughout east Anglia attended the second counter-terrorism conference to be organised by the Eastern Region Counter-Terrorism Intelligence Unit (CTIU).

The conference was so successful it will be used nationwide as a template to promote the engagement of partner agencies in topics related to counter-terrorism.

Opening the day at the Rowley Mile Conference Centre in Newmarket was former Metropolitan Police Deputy Assistant Commissioner and director of the Racial and Violent Crime Task Force Prof John Grieve, who offered an insight into historic and

present-day issues facing the security services.

The conference, *Working in Partnership to Prevent Extremism*, aimed to increase the understanding of how and why people become involved in violent extremism.

Representatives from various public-sector organisations – including education, probation and health – listened to presentations from Asim Hafeez, from the Office of Security and Counter-Terrorism, former Hizb-Ut-Tahrir activist Ishtiaq Hussain, from The Quilliam Foundation, and Chris Charlton, from the Department of Health.

Education consultant Graham Robb also offered an insight into way of engaging and identifying with youngsters from Muslim and

British backgrounds. Head of CTIU East Det Supt Janet Molloy believed the day went towards breaking down barriers.

"It's imperative that, through positive dialogue and sharing of information and experiences, we continually improve ways to counter any potential terrorist activity," she said.

"I truly believe that we need to have these difficult, sensitive discussions in order that we can move forward together – respectful both of shared values and also of different points of view but always resolutely against violence and terrorism."

The conference used a collaborative debriefing system called 10,000 Volt Debrief,

created and pioneered by Prof Jonathan Crego.

This enabled delegates to enter questions and discuss issues as they occurred in real time.

The results will be digested by the regional government office GO-East and the CTIU in order to prioritise future business.

● AS from August 17, the CTIU will come under Essex Police management as we are the lead force for counter-terrorism in the eastern region.

Essex Police is funded by ACPO TAM (Terrorism and Allied Matters) to ensure the unit's work is directed across the six regional forces as required.