

# The Law



[www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk)

September 2009

## NEW CHIEF WANTS TO LISTEN TO YOU



● Chief Constable Jim Barker-McCardle

by Heather Turner

**NEW Chief Constable Jim Barker-McCardle is to meet police officers and staff at a series of roadshows this month.**

He wants to listen to views and also share his own vision and priorities for the force.

Improving public confidence will be top of the agenda.

The nine roadshows are due to be held during Mr Barker-McCardle's first three weeks in force – he joins us on September 8.

They are primarily for police officers of inspector rank and above and for police staff of various grades.

Audience members will have the chance to share their views about issues which are important to them and ask questions of the new Chief Constable.

He is extremely keen to hear from police officers and staff about the service we provide to the public and how they think the force can further improve its performance.

During the roadshows – to be held at venues across the county – various Chief Supts will give an operational perspective on improving public confidence through the delivery of our services and the principles of the Policing Pledge.

And head of customer service Claire Heath will talk about our how our commitment to the public is improving confidence by putting the customer first.

Essex Police Authority chairman Robert Chambers will also be speaking at some of the events.

● 'Tent City' at Hylands Park, Chelmsford. The annual V-Festival passed off peacefully last month with crowds of 80,000 attending. For more, turn to Page 3

Picture by Mark Shelley, Air Support Unit



● Pc Paul Gale, Sc Razwan Uddin, Abul Noor, Abdul Gaffur and PCSOs Terrie Johnson and Laura Hearn at Braintree's Muslim Open Day

Picture by Nishan Wijeratne

## 'Awareness of Islam' course is a great success

FOR the second year, the Essex Black Police Association (EBPA) has presented, in partnership with Essex Police College, its innovative scheme to raise awareness and understanding of Islam and the Muslim community.

EBPA, Sidra Naeem, from the Mid-Essex Interfaith Forum, and the college provide an Islamic awareness course for police officers, PCSOs and police staff.

Mrs Naeem delivered the course – the first of its kind for Essex Police – which includes hot topics such as the five pillars of faith, Islamophobia, women in Islam and forced marriages.

The course was piloted last year on Stansted Airport Division and is fully supported this year by Stansted divisional commander Chief Supt Peter Coltman.

EBPA co-ordinator Jennifer Dore explained: "There are multiple benefits for everyone involved.

"They will gain a better understanding of Islam and the concerns of local Muslims, as well as an insight into the culture and traditions of the Muslim community."

And Mrs Naeem added: "It is important that Essex Police works with outside agencies to understand different cultures, traditions and faiths.

"As a member of the public as well as being on the police community training advisory group, I feel such training is fundamental to policing."

Because of the overwhelming positive feedback from Stansted police officers and police staff, the EBPA and the EPC diversity unit will be working together to organise more training sessions to continue to inform and to educate our employees about diversity.

The next Islam awareness training has been proposed for late next month.

Police officers, PCSOs and members of police staff who wish to attend should email diversity and community engagement officer Heather Gill or EBPA co-ordinator Jennifer Dore.

## What a difference a day makes

MORE than 100 people turned out to attend the inaugural Muslim Open Day in Braintree.

The event, hosted by the local community and Islamic Centre, was organised to promote engagement between all the local residents in the area.

Neighbourhood policing officers spoke to several visitors of all ages at Weavers Park, highlighting the strong relationship the police have with the Muslim community.

Sgt Paul Gale said: "We had a really fun day and it was an ideal opportunity to connect with people of all ages from different backgrounds and cultures.

"Given that it was the first event of its kind in the town, there

was a respectable turn-out, although it would have been nice to see more people from the local white community come over and enjoy the many attractions that had been laid on."

Large numbers of teenagers were attracted to the venue as Braintree District Council's youth bus was present. This, in turn, diverted youngsters to the stalls and encouraged them to talk to the local Asian population.

Event organiser and community leader Abdul Gaffur added: "We would like to thank Essex Police for their support and involvement in organising this day as well as being present throughout.

"The police horses were naturally the biggest attraction and they drew in crowds which would not have ordinarily come over."

# Improving public confidence and satisfaction

by Claire Elliott

## NATIONAL Customer Service Week is nearly upon us.

Running from Monday, October 5 to Sunday, October 11, the week marks the start of several initiatives across the force aimed at increasing customer satisfaction with the force still further.

Customer services manager Debbie Batey said: "We want to maintain our high standards and ensure that every person who contacts Essex Police receives the best possible service.

"To do this we are increasing the number of quality checks and gathering more feedback from the public.

"We hope that the response from National Customer Service Week will help us to drive customer satisfaction even higher.

"It is also a chance to remind each police officer and member of police staff of the promises set out in the Policing Pledge."

During National Customer Service Week, the force will be finding out from members of the public what they thought of their customer experience.

Surveys will be left in police station front offices and the customer services team will also be contacting members of the public direct, for their feedback.

There will also be more opportunities for the public to talk to Essex Police as we join up



with partner agencies to set up one-stop shops across Essex.

A one-stop shop is already running at the Basildon Centre while another, called InfoPoint Colchester, is based in Angel Court, Colchester.

And InfoPoint Chelmsford is due to be launched next month in the Essex County Council Atrium for a six-month trial period.

As well as the county and district/borough councils, the one-stop shops also involve Essex County Fire and Rescue Service and the local primary care trusts

They provide an opportunity for people to drop in and have questions answered on a variety of issues which may be dealt with by more than one local authority or agency.

Police officers and staff will also be kept on their toes during the week as 'mystery shoppers' will be checking how they deal with dissatisfied customers and general enquiries.

● For further information on National Customer Service Week contact Debbie Batey, customer services manager via email or on ext 52168

Have you a news or sports story for *The Law*? Or maybe you want to send a letter? Contact editor Heather Turner on ext 54337 or via email



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# Frank drills standards into our new recruits

DRILL instructor Frank Walker is setting very high standards for newcomers to the force.

Mr Walker said: "Students are set very clear guidelines by me with regard to dress standards and behaviour and I expect them to maintain those standards throughout their career with the force."

Mr Walker, 60, who likes to be addressed as "Staff" by his students, has a strong belief in leading by example.

His standards were learnt in the Army, which he joined as a boy soldier at 15. He went on to serve 26 years with the Staffordshire Regiment and at the Military Corrective Training Centre at Colchester.

Then he was recruited by the Home Office as a civilian and taught public order, first aid, self-defence, drill and traffic control.

He spent eight years at Shotley training centre and joined Essex Police two years ago as drill instructor.

Mr Walker instructs all new recruits to the regulars, including student officers, cadets and police community support officers. (PCSOs)

On their second week with the force, the raw recruits have their introduction to 'Staff', who teaches them about dress standards and codes of behaviour and how to drill.

Cadets are given an extra helping hand and are also shown how to iron shirts, press trousers and clean boots.

Mr Walker said: "I like to lead by example and I set out clear guidelines in a firm but fair manner. Being neat and tidy and having high dress standards is a form of self-discipline and acknowledging work colleagues in a polite and friendly manner is a good basis for teamwork."

"The public expect police officers to have a high standard of dress and doing this is what makes them stand apart from the general public and gives a look of authority."

"However, officers must also remain friendly and approachable at all times. The drill promotes stronger teamwork and is very good grounding for public order training."

"All the students master the drill which I try to make enjoyable and not too militaristic."

● Essex Police drill instructor Frank Walker, far left, keeps an eye on his new recruits

Picture by Bill Stock

## New recorders sound like a good idea

THE Media Department has seen its first audio-broadcasting successes with the introduction of a new piece of equipment.

Head of Media Claire Ziwa has bought several Marantz digital audio-recorders to add to the department's range of communications tactics.

Now press officers at HQ and media communications co-ordinators out on division can record quick 'soundbites' from police officers and staff on all manner of positive news stories for use by the media and for the public.

Audioclips have already been broadcast by a local radio station.

Audioclips will also be a feature of the new version Essex Police website - [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk) - which is currently being developed.

Mrs Ziwa said: "This will enhance our work to promote the force positively in an increasingly crowded media marketplace."

## Emergency services show

THIS year's Emergency Services Show is on November 24 and 25.

It features an exhibition and a conference for joined-up thinking on emergency planning, response and recovery.

More than 350 exhibitors include the 2012 Olympic Security Directorate, the National Flood Forum, the Football Safety Officers' Association and the National Policing Improvement Agency.

● For further information and to register, visit [www.theemergency-servicesshow2009.com](http://www.theemergency-servicesshow2009.com)

# Months of preparation pay off as crime drops at 'V'

by Bill Stock

**MONTHS of preparation for the V Festival in Chelmsford paid dividends for the force, which saw a significant reduction in crime at the annual event.**

The music festival, which attracted more than 80,000 people to Hylands Park, was again hailed as a safe and enjoyable event and the number of offences was much lower than in previous years.

Between August 21 and 23 - ie Friday night and Sunday night - 51 crimes were reported, compared with 76 for the same period last year.

The late reporting of 63 thefts and eight drug offences between Monday, August 24, and Tuesday, September 1, took the total number of crimes to 129 compared with a total of 171 for the same period last year.

A total of 52 arrests were made during the weekend - a large number of them being linked to reported crimes.

Thirty-five people were arrested for drug offences, ten were detained on suspicion of ticket-touting, fraud or money-laundering offences, one for a public order incident, four for assault, one for indecent assault and a person wanted by police in Manchester was also arrested.

Central divisional commander Chief Supt Michelle Dunn said: "Many months were spent planning for the event and we were involved in a great deal of work with other emergency services and partner organisations to make the V Festival the enjoyable and safe event it was."

"Great credit must also go to the festival-goers themselves, the majority of whom enjoyed the fun in a good-natured and well-behaved way."

"We are delighted to report a considerable decrease in crime and disorder and that we were



● The main stage at the V Festival in Chelmsford

Picture by Mark Shelley

able to deal appropriately with the minor problems which did arise," she said.

"The festival was policed as if it was a community in Essex and we deployed neighbourhood resources, such as community police officers patrolling on foot, horses and many officers on bikes and we focused on protecting the camp sites, where we have really seen a reduction in thefts from tents this year."

"We also ran a specific operation focusing on ticket touts, which led to ten arrests and we were very proactive in dealing with drug offences."

"It is not acceptable to bring drugs into the county and deal drugs at the event and we dealt positively with those types of offences."

Insp Justin Smith, who ran a Mobile Support Division traffic operation around the V Festival site, said around 300 tickets were issued for offences such as speeding, using a mobile phone while driving, not wearing seat belts and document offences.

He added: "We also used automatic number plate

recognition technology (ANPR) to intercept those we did not want on the V Festival site."

"Traffic volumes were higher this year, possibly because people had decided to travel by car even though a rail dispute had been called off, but we had plans in place to cope."

"About 14,000 vehicles entered the site on the Friday, which was considerably more than in previous years."

"Despite the extra traffic and some delays, the majority of drivers were good-natured and many thanked us for looking after them as they left."

● EASTERN Division's command team has praised the hard work of officers and staff which helped to create a "strong community spirit" at this year's Clacton Air Show.

An estimated 120,000 people attended the air show on Thursday, August 27, and Friday, August 28.

Supt Iain Logan, who was in overall charge of policing the event, said: "This year's air show was a fantastic event and both days passed very safely."

"Not only were the visitors well behaved but police officers and staff also put in a brilliant effort to make it go smoothly."

"The show regularly draws people from all over south-east England and, indeed, all over the country. We enjoyed good weather on both days and it was an excellent way for us to get out and engage with the community."

"The Clacton Neighbourhood Policing Team was joined by officers from the Essex Police Special Constabulary as well as colleagues from across the county."

"And we also worked closely with staff from Tendring District Council to ensure that both local residents and visitors had a safe and enjoyable day out in Tendring."

"I was delighted to see such a strong community spirit in Clacton and extremely pleased that this successful event continues to go from strength to strength."

Debbie Chisholm

## Running back to her roots

**NORTHERNER Debbie Martin, acting head of finance, has decided to pull her trainers out of the cupboard and do the Great North Run for Cancer Research UK.**

**After the sudden loss of her mother to pancreatic cancer last year, Debbie saw the run as a great opportunity to raise money for Cancer Research UK.**

**The Great North Run, on September 20, is also very fitting as her mother was born in Gateshead, which is part of the half marathon course.**

**● To pledge sponsorship and support, visit [www.runningsponsor.org/debbiemartin66](http://www.runningsponsor.org/debbiemartin66) or contact Debbie Martin directly on 0300 333 4444 ext 50800**



## Federation news by Roy Scanes



### Police Federation wins right to on-call payment

THE independent Police Arbitration Tribunal (PAT) has ruled in favour of an on-call allowance to be payable to UK police officers.

The exact wording of the PAT award is: "The tribunal is persuaded that an on-call allowance, determined at national level, should be introduced.

"The details as to the form of nationally-determined recompense such as the level or levels, conditions, date of introduction and any Police Negotiating Board (PNB) framework of principles or guidance for the operation of on-call, are to be subject to negotiation between the Sides."

I am very pleased that the tribunal was persuaded that a national on-call allowance should be introduced.

We are particularly heartened that the tribunal recognised the unfairness and inconsistency of the current arrangements.

Police officers know that they can be recalled to duty at any time, in times of emergency, but increasingly officers are required to be on-call, available on the end of a phone, close to work and fit for duty.

As a direct result they are not able to relax or spend quality time with their families when they are off duty.

We acknowledge that, for the efficiency of the organisation, some officers do need to be on-call but we hope that this new allowance will compensate them for the disruption to their home and family life.

### Essex Police Federation travel insurance policy

Can I please ask those of you who have the Federation Annual travel insurance arranged through Philip Williams & Co – and currently advertised in the pages of *The Law* – that you take the time to read your policy document in full before you travel.

This will ensure that the insurance covers your travel arrangements and, hopefully, help avoid any misunderstandings and upset in the unlikely event of a claim having to be turned

down.

I must draw your particular attention to the highlighted section on the front of the policy wording: Important Notice Concerning Your Travel Insurance – Existing Health Conditions and Material Facts.

Please note that this aims to bring to the attention of all policyholders the need to provide the insurers with information concerning anything which might influence them in accepting the insurance.

As with all other insurance companies, it is a legal requirement to disclose all material facts – an example is: a medical condition suffered by a close relative who is not insured under the policy but on whose health the policy-holder's travel plans may depend, even though that person may not be travelling with you.

I must also stress that, where excesses are shown as being applicable, the excesses apply for each person and each section of each claim, with a maximum excess of £100 per policy per incident.

Also, please don't forget to take the policy document with you on holiday as it also provides you with all relevant emergency contact numbers should you need them.

### Federation negotiates conveyancing service

In these difficult financial times, Essex Police Federation has negotiated with Payplans' associate company, Law2Law, a great value offer of a straightforward conveyancing service for anyone buying, selling or remortgaging their home.

Conveyancing is the act of transferring the ownership of a property from one person to another and is a legal necessity in any property transaction.

Unlike solicitors, Law2Law specialises in conveyancing, enabling it to give clients the care and attention they need when dealing with the inevitable stress of a home move.

Law2Law offers a £100 discount for Essex Police Federation members.

To take advantage, visit [www.law2law.co.uk](http://www.law2law.co.uk) or call 0845 6066627, quoting reference Pol Fed.

## Unison news by Mike Frost



I NEVER cease to be amazed by the diversity of cases that come our way in the Unison office.

What is certain is that joining Unison is like buying any insurance policy – you hope and believe you will never need it but when you do, it's worth its weight in gold!

Many colleagues are employed in front-line or front-line support roles that leave them exposed to potentially difficult situations every day of their working lives.

PCSOs never know what they are going to meet out there on the street and a serious complaint by anyone can lead to an investigation that is stressful, to say the least.

Service Desk assistants can come face to face with less desirable elements of society, who can be only too willing to cause trouble, even to the extent of lying.

And detention officers face the possibility of a prisoner attempting to self-harm or attempting to commit suicide in a cell.

Examples of all of these things happening to police staff come across the Unison desk with surprising frequency.

But, if you are not member of Unison in good standing for at least four weeks before the incident, there is no help we can offer.

However, if you are an established Unison member, then all the help and support available from one of the foremost trades unions in the country is at your disposal.

In the first place, your local steward and the executive members at HQ will make themselves available to you to advise and be with you at any meetings or interviews.

As issues progress, if disciplinary proceedings are undertaken, a trained and experienced Unison officer will represent you and even present your case.

In the unfortunate event of court proceedings, whether criminal or employment-based – such as an employment tribunal – legal assistance may be put at your disposal from the Unison legal service.

The legal service is divided into two teams:

- the employment rights team handles employment law issues affecting large numbers of members

- the legal services team deals with the wider range of legal issues.

Legal advice and representation is provided by Thompson's Solicitors, who have worked with the trades' union movement for more than 80 years. From their local branches they provide employment, personal injury and criminal law advice.

It doesn't stop there! Help and advice is also on hand for accidents at work, accidents outside work and criminal injuries compensation claims, as well as house-purchase conveyancing, telephone legal advice and a will-writing service.

Many of these services are included in the monthly cost of membership, so they are free at the point of delivery and, in many cases, where a charge is made, it will be considerably less than could be obtained on the High Street. Family members have access to many of these services too.

And more than one member has cause to be grateful for Unison taking their personal circumstances to organisations such as the Police Dependents' Trust.

Just recently, a member received a substantial cheque to help through a particularly traumatic period.

Others are grateful that in certain circumstances – despite force policies – their pay has not been cut or even stopped altogether while there are those who may have been dismissed had it not been for Unison representation.

The Essex Police branch is one of the strongest branches in the country but still up to half our police staff are not members and so, regrettably, do not qualify for help when they need it and, equally regrettably, we have to decline when asked.

We do not offer retrospective assistance because to do that would be very unfair on our loyal and long-standing membership.

The long and the short of it is that for every single member of the Essex police staff family, Unison membership makes perfect sense.

If you never need the help and support available, you can count yourself lucky but you can still save money by using the many fringe benefits. Join now – before it's too late.

5- 11 October 2009

## National Customer Service Week

Raising Staff awareness about 'Customer First' and ensuring we deliver the promises set out in the policing pledge

### What are we doing?

#### We Will:

- Contact members of the public to find out about their customer experience with Essex Police
- Survey customer satisfaction with station visits
- Increase mystery shopping to improve our response to dissatisfaction enquiries
- Increase the way people can meet Essex Police by promoting partnership working eg Basildon, Chelmsford, Colchester One Stop shops

Any questions or for details of your Divisional SPOC contact Debbie Batey, Customer Services Manager Ext 52168



Institute of Customer Service  
2 Castle Court St Peter's Street Colchester Essex CO1 1EW  
T: 01206 571716  
E: [nscw@icsmail.co.uk](mailto:nscw@icsmail.co.uk)



• At the top of Hartside, along the Coast to Coast cycle route, are Pc Brad Morgan, Pc Jason Willis, Pc James Clift, Dave Heckles, Pc Neil Course, Pc Shaun Russell, Pc Shaun Heckles and Isabella's father, Pc Simon Cox

## Officers put on a 'wheely' good show to raise money for Isabella

OFFICERS from Stansted Airport took to the road in a fund raising dash across England in support of a very special little girl.

Pcs Simon Cox, Shaun Russell, Jason Willis, Neil Course, James Clift, Brad Morgan and Shaun Heckles, and his father Dave, completed the Coast to Coast cycle route in June.

Three year-old Isabella Cox, Pc Cox's daughter, is registered disabled and has major problems that hinder her physical and mental wellbeing – the problems are attributed to Chromosome Two being missing from her DNA.

The team raised some £3,500 through sponsorship, which will help to pay for a trip to America for Isabella to receive special

treatment. Pc Course said: "The 135-mile route from Whitehaven to Sunderland consists of cycleways, roads and tracks passing through some really eye-catching countryside.

"Demanding hill climbs in turn gave way to some 'well-deserved' lengthy downhill runs. The ride was spread over three days – with legs of 31, 56 and 48 miles – and we were well supported by Isabella's grandfather John, her uncle Jason and Pc Andy Pilgrim.

"But what an achievement and with no special training – 135 miles of tough cycling – bearing in mind the first day immediately followed the drive from Stansted to Whitehaven straight from night shift," he added.

- To make a contribution, visit [www.justgiving.com/neilcoursec2c](http://www.justgiving.com/neilcoursec2c)

## Corner the chairman



● Essex Police Authority chairman

Robert Chambers

## Partnership working at its best

“ AT the start of this month, I attended the official launch of the new A12 Alliance road patrols with ACC Derek Benson, Essex County Council leader Lord Hanningfield and Cllr Norman Hume. An additional three sergeants and 15 constables – classified as Operation APEX posts – will be patrolling the A12. They are being funded by Essex County Council. These new patrols will not only reduce delays and congestion along one of the busiest roads in the county, they will make the road even safer – great news for the people of Essex and those travelling through it. And, this month we will be celebrating the first anniversary of Operation APEX – the ambition for policing in Essex. I am delighted that it continues to go from strength to strength – putting more officers out and about on the front line. And the achievement of these new A12 Alliance road patrols is another example of the strong partnership working that exists between Essex Police, Essex Police Authority and our colleagues at Essex County Council and the Highways Agency. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their continued support. This partnership working is also another way in which we continue to give the people of Essex what they want – more visible policing. ”

## Successful first closure order

RESIDENTS in a Colchester street were delighted after a closure order was served on a house which has caused them more than two years of misery. Police, in partnership with Colchester Borough Council and the crime and disorder reduction partnership, successfully utilised Section 1A of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 to end the anti-social behaviour with the enforced closure of the house.

It was the first closure order used in Colchester.

Chief Supt Tim Newcomb said: “This sends a strong message out to anyone else behaving anti-socially in the borough.”

## National Police Memorial Day

NATIONAL Police Memorial Day remembers every officer killed on duty since modern policing began more than 175 years ago.

And it also recognises the courage and dedication shown by all police officers across the UK every day.

To this end a service is held on the nearest Sunday to St Michael's Day, September 29 – St Michael is the patron saint of police officers.

This year the service is on Sunday, September 27, in Cardiff.

The Police Federation of England and Wales is working in partnership with the

Home Offices and other police associations across the UK to ensure the day is memorable for everyone attending, particularly the widows, family and friends of fallen officers.

Paul McKeever, chairman of the Police Federation of England and Wales said: “This day is a way for the nation to recognise the best of all human qualities – selfless and devoted courage – and the example and valour of those officers who died on duty acts as an inspiration to us all.”

● For more information, visit [www.nationalpolice memorialday.org](http://www.nationalpolice memorialday.org)

## Commemorating a brave officer 25 years on

OFFICERS from the Force Support Unit and Mobile Support Division joined former police officer Sue Bishop at HQ to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the murder of her husband, acting Sgt Brian ‘Bill’ Bishop.

He died five days after being shot in the head by an armed robber at Frinton on Sea on August 22, 1984. Also attending the short ceremony was Mervyn Fairweather – then a sergeant – who was shot in the groin during the same incident.

After Mrs Bishop laid flowers on the Essex Police Memorial Stone at 1.30pm on August 27 – the exact time at which her husband died – ACC Derek Benson laid a wreath on behalf of the force. Following a short period of reflection, Mrs Bishop then chatted to the police officers present. She said: “I should like to thank Mr Benson, Essex Police and the Force Support Unit for arranging and inviting me to the ceremony, for being able to talk to the FSU afterwards and for their continuing support of me and my son David.”

Acting Sgt Bishop was attested as a police constable in 1966 – having

joined the force as a cadet aged 15 – and he joined the Force Support Unit (FSU) in 1975, later becoming a firearms instructor.

He and Mr Fairweather, now a force contingency planning officer, were among FSU officers called to Frinton after armed robberies at two post offices, one in the town and one at nearby Walton. A Brentwood man was later found guilty of murdering Acting Sgt Bishop and of wounding Mr Fairweather.

The murder prompted the formation of Essex Police Memorial Trust and it has since overseen the creation of a Roll of Honour and a Book of Remembrance at Essex Police HQ as well as the laying of the Memorial Stone – ensuring that all Essex Police officers and staff who have paid the ultimate sacrifice are never forgotten. The trust now maintains police-related memorials throughout Essex, including the brown granite memorial stone sited on the seafront where acting Sgt Bishop was shot. A walnut tree was also planted in his memory at Sandon Dog Unit – he had served as a dog handler prior to joining FSU.

## Inspector's trust quiz

A QUIZ night is being held to raise funds for a memorial to Essex officer Insp Thomas Simmons, who was murdered on duty in 1885.

It is on Saturday, September 19, at 7.30pm in Robert Beard Youth Hall in Hornchurch. Organisers Linda Rhodes and Kathy Abnett – who wrote The Romford Outrage about the murder – are looking for teams of up to eight people to compete.

Insp Simmons was shot in the abdomen as he attempted to question suspected burglars in South Hornchurch. He joined in the chase as the suspects fled across fields but died at home four days later. He is buried at Crow Lane Cemetery in Romford.

● Quiz tickets cost £4.50 per person and people are asked to take along their own food and drink. To book a table, email [linda.rhodes@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.rhodes@btinternet.com)

● Visit [www.essex.police.uk/memorial](http://www.essex.police.uk/memorial) for more on the Essex Police Memorial Trust and a full story about the death of Insp Simmons



● ACC Derek Benson and Sue Bishop remember acting Sgt Brian ‘Bill’ Bishop, watched by Force Support Unit officers and Mervyn Fairweather, centre, who was injured in the same 1984 shooting

# Vigilance reaps crime dividends

by Laura Anderson

**SOUTHEND and Basildon crime and disorder reduction partnerships (CDRPs) have been chosen by the Home Office to receive additional funding to combat burglary and robbery.**

As part of the Operation Vigilance programme, the two districts will get a slice of the £3million package, which includes the provision of pre-emptive support, training and additional resources.

Known offenders will be targeted by such proactive methods as being sent text messages to remind them to turn up to meetings with probation officers and for job interviews.

Home Office Minister Alan Campbell said: “Many of the areas taking part in Vigilance have seen a significant drop in overall crime over the last decade but, like us, they are determined to take a tough, proactive stance in keeping crime down and should be commended for working in partnership with us to do that.”

Both Basildon and Southend are already making significant dents in burglary and robbery figures.

In Basildon, new tactics such as Operation Bright Shadow have already been implemented – prolific offenders are followed by officers with head-cameras, in a bid to stop them offending.

Over the course of this single operation, incidents of burglary dropped by 44 per cent.

Together with other initiatives, including under-

taking the county's biggest property-marking scheme – SelectaDNA – these tactics have helped to reduce the overall number of burglaries by 11 per cent between April and June, compared with the same period last year.

Basildon has also seen a significant reduction in robberies, which fell by 37 per cent between April and June, again compared with the same period last year.

Basildon district commander Chief Insp Simon Dobinson said: “The CDRP is more committed than ever to tackling the causes and offenders of crime and we welcome further support to help us make Basildon a safer place to live.”

After quickly spotting a rising trend in burglaries late last year, the Southend district took immediate positive action through the launch of Operation Avenue – a dedicated burglary squad to lead the way in dealing with the crime. As a result, burglaries dropped by 13 per cent between January and May, compared with the same period last year.

Neighbourhood and partnerships Supt Gwynn Williams said: “Burglary can have a devastating effect on its victims and can make them feel unsafe in their own homes.

“This makes us more determined than ever to ensure we take steps to help residents to avoid becoming victims but also that we are fully prepared to robustly investigate every offence.”

Raising cash for young crime victims

OFFICERS and police staff have been fund raising for Child Victims of Crime (CVOC). CVOC manager Dominic Chambers was greeted by DCC Andy Bliss at HQ,

who presented him with a cheque on behalf of the force – as well as bike rides, police officers and staff also organised a raffle, charity days and a quiz night, raising £1,800.

Equal opportunities: Tell the force exactly what you think

ARE you treated fairly? Is Essex Police a good place to work? Tell us what you think – honestly!

Every three years, the force undertakes an Equal Opportunities Survey to assess whether fair treatment and equality is being achieved.

The 2009 Equal Opportunities Survey is due to run between Monday, September 28, and Friday, October 23, and this is your chance to give your views anonymously.

Equality and diversity manager Jan Woodhouse said: “This survey takes just ten minutes to complete but is an invaluable tool for the force, providing us with important information about how people feel they are treated and what we can do better.

“It is a chance for everyone to be open about their work-life and gives us an opportunity to look at any problems and develop ways to change what we do if necessary.”

After the last force survey three years ago, the 2006 EO (Equal Opportunities) Survey Report was produced, which outlined problems and areas for improvement.

Recommendations implemented since include an HR working group set up to promote disability equality within the force and each employee has been given a specific personal development review (PDR) objective on race and diversity.

● To have your say, complete your Equal Opportunities Survey online by visiting the Equality and Diversity intranet site, listed under the Site Directory's Information menu

● If you do not have access to the online facility, or require the survey in an alternative format, contact assistant employee relations officer Sara Bridgeman-Clarke via email or on ext 51731

● To view the 2006 EO (Equal Opportunities) Survey Report, visit the Equality and Diversity intranet site, scroll to the bottom of the lefthand and click on the Facts and Figures tab and then on 2006 EO Survey Report

# Special memories

**READING the 40th anniversary issue of *The Law* was a nostalgic moment for Jack Carrington for, as the then *Essex Chronicle* newsroom manager, he was responsible for the first issue in April 1969. Here Jack, who lives in Broomfield, recounts those early days and also the 25 years he spent as a member of the Special Constabulary.**



● Jack Carrington's farewell in the June 1985 issue of *The Law* after serving the Special Constabulary for 25 years

**“BEFORE being awarded the order to print the newspaper, I was introduced to Chief Constable Sir John Nightingale by *Essex Chronicle* editor Major Rae Handley, during the tour of the works.**

As we were all ex-servicemen, an excellent rapport was established, with promises made to give every assistance to the editor, Chief Insp John Hedgethorpe, who was also Commandant of the Cadet School.

At the time we also printed *The Job* for the Metropolitan Police, who employed an agency to produce their journal, and were a printer's nightmare.

We feared more of the same from *The Law* but those fears were soon allayed when working with Chief Insp Hedgethorpe as he proved to be one of the most professional people I ever worked with.

He never ceased to amaze – it was not unusual for him to appear at our works in Westway, Chelmsford, wearing his running kit when delivering his copy, having run from Essex Police HQ in Springfield.

On one memorable occasion, he was met by one of the jokers at work, who ran alongside him

# Choir members put on a host of special events to celebrate their 20th anniversary

THE Essex Police Choir is holding a year of exciting events as it celebrates its 20th anniversary.

Twenty years on, musical director Norman Eastbrook – head of Imaging in HQ Photographic – is still waving his baton at the choir, which has grown to number around 55, several of whom were, like Norman, in at the beginning.

The force already had a well-established band and musical society when a meeting was held at Essex Police HQ in March 1989 to discuss forming a choir.

Potential choristers included serving and retired officers, civilian staff and family members. By the time of its first annual meeting in September 1989, the choir had 28 members who sang from music borrowed from Tiptree Choral Society, to which Mr Eastbrook belonged.

Since the first concert, for Boreham Women's Institute in December 1989, the choir has taken part in around 250 concerts all over Essex and East Anglia and also acquired a taste for

foreign travel.

In fact, members enjoyed their participation in the 1993 International Festival of Police Choirs in Victoria, British Columbia, so much that, two years later, the festival was held on home ground in Chelmsford.

As well as a return trip to Canada in 2000, the choir has also sung in such elegant cities as Paris and Prague.

And in May, to mark the 20th anniversary year, choir members travelled to southern Ireland to perform two concerts.

While, in March, a celebration dinner was attended by present and past members of Essex Police Choir, their friends and supporters.

Although the choir represents Essex Police, providing good public relations, its members are self-funding but financially supported by an active Friends group which organises a wide range of fund raising and social activities.

The choir does not charge organisations which request a concert and

removed from the streets, an order I took seriously.

Unfortunately, as fast as I took them in the front door of the police station, the sergeant released them out of the back door.

Probably due to my age, odd duties came my way – some pleasant, some not so – such as finding myself acting as matron for female prisoners, as there were few WPCs around in those days.

My worst nightmare was arriving at the scene of a traffic jam, caused by a swan taking up residence in the middle of the High Street, and being told by the sergeant to catch it, take it to Central Park and release it – obviously he liked Specials as much as I liked swans.

Then I moved out to Broomfield and was not exactly welcomed into the Rural Section. Fortunately, most of the sergeants were like myself – ex-Services – and as I was the only Special, I was soon totally integrated into the duty shift pattern.

This was policing at its best – everyone was so dedicated and felt affronted if a crime was committed on their beat.

Every householder going on holiday, if they wished, could have their property checked nightly while they were away.

Nightly road checks were set up to catch drink-drivers and, as word got around, eventually Broomfield became a no-go area for drunken drivers going home.

Known criminals up to no good would find the police waiting for them in the early hours, when they had thought it safe to return home with their stolen property.

Of course, there were many light-hearted moments. One evening, when collecting the post from Chelmsford, we noticed on Force Orders a sergeants' refresher course at HQ and Sgt Ian Brotherton's name was typed in at the top of the list.

The hoax was not discovered until he turned



● Former Braintree MP Tony Newton meets SSgt Jack Carrington on his last day of duty for the Special Constabulary on May 12, 1985

up for the course. In the meantime, Pc Bruce Brown was made acting sergeant during his absence – it was a very short appointment.”

● For more information about Essex Police Special Constabulary, visit [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk) and click on Recruitment or visit the Special Constabulary intranet site, listed under Divisions & Departments on the intranet Site Directory



● Essex Police Choir at St James the Great Church, Colchester, where they sang in July to help raise funds for the organ restoration fund

it is a source of pride that more than £200,000 has been raised for both local and national charitable purposes and good causes in the last 20 years.

In June, a joint concert with the Essex Police Band at St Luke's Church in Tiptree helped to raise £1,300 for church funds as part of a month-long festival.

● However, if you missed that concert and want to see Essex Police Choir and Essex Police Band performing

together again, don't miss the annual charity concert in Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday, October 31 at 7.30pm.

Tickets cost £10. Contact Mark Lawrence on 07802 414793, email [tickets@essexpolicechoir.co.uk](mailto:tickets@essexpolicechoir.co.uk) or download a booking form from the website [www.essexpolicechoir.co.uk](http://www.essexpolicechoir.co.uk)

All concert proceeds will support the Prostate Cancer Charity and the Stroke Association.

● Essex Police Choir sings a variety

of music which includes songs from the Shows, chart hits, popular religious pieces and classical music. It is always looking for new members, particularly men.

If interested, go along to choir practice, held at Essex Police College canteen in St Margaret's Road, Springfield, on Tuesdays at 7.30pm or contact Norman Eastbrook on 01245 452580 or via email at [norman.eastbrook@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:norman.eastbrook@essex.pnn.police.uk)

Mark Lawrence  
Cambridgeshire



● Pcs Julian Loftus, Rob Wood, Barry Blackman and Mike Saunders meet young residents on their bikes in Harwich, together with Hilda McCarthy, second right – the date of the news story and picture is unknown

# Op Velo revives bicycle memories

ON the front page of the July issue of *The Law*, police on bicycles were featured once again.

It revived memories of serving on detachment at Horndon-on-the-Hill between December 1957 and December 1963.

In those days, the village beats were patrolled on bicycles, which, I must say, kept one fairly fit.

Here is a copy of a cutting from a Thurrock news paper from about 1959, when I organised a safe cycle competition round the village.

On the left is Graham Bright, who later became a Luton MP, and on the right is Wilf Kent, a member of the Stanford le Hope area road safety committee.

It was for me the start of promotion of road safety in all the

local schools under the watchful eye of road safety sergeant Dick Lacey, who was stationed at divisional HQ in Grays.

The second picture was taken on Horndon Carnival day in April 1961. I am wearing cycle trousers-clips. These were essential protection against catching your trouser bottoms in the chain, unless your machine had the luxury of a chain guard.

Those years were among the happiest of my police career and the locals would often seek advice from my wife, who enjoyed being useful.

All the best and strength to *The Law*. Long may it flourish.

Harry Rossiter  
Exeter



● Pcs Sue Jenkins, Stewart Collins, Kevin Ockenden, Bob Siggery and John Holborough get on their bikes – the picture and news story were published in the *Evening Gazette* on February 14, 1992



A word of advice from the law for these children who took part in a safe cycling competition at Horndon on Saturday. The tests took them on a tour of the village.

● Harry Rossiter, above centre, and left

# Links to Churchill run in the family

IN this photograph you can see Sir Winston Churchill in the foreground. The police constable on the left is my father Pc 491 WJ Rose.

I think the picture was taken during the 1930s at the rear of Epping police station – the visit was during an election campaign when Sir Winston was Conservative MP for Epping and Woodford.

As you can see, crowd control during this era was not too much of a problem – Dad did not look too stressed. A couple of coincidences followed later, during my own police service in Essex.

When I joined and went to Eynsham Hall in Oxfordshire for initial training, my instructions stated that I was to make my way to Long Hanborough railway station, which served Bladon where Sir Winston is buried.

His coffin was transported from London to Long Hanborough station prior to his burial. On the day of Sir Winston's funeral in January 1965, I was one of a contingent of Pcs chosen to attend the funeral to assist the City of London Police. I can recall as if it were yesterday being allocated a position to line the funeral route close to St Paul's Cathedral.

We had to be in position by 6am. It was one of the coldest days in the whole of my police service and, of course, it was not possible to move about much. I think by the end of the tour of duty I was almost as cold as Sir Winston would have been.

Dave Rose  
Linton  
Cambridgeshire

# Successful 1960s football team won ten cup finals on the trot

THE *Law's* postbag and email inbox was stuffed full of replies to the request to name people in two photographs published in the July issue, one of the Essex Police football team and the other of Sgt Bert Turner and a team of officers picking up a new fleet of cars for Colchester.

It is thought the picture was taken during the 1961/62 football season and the following list of names has been established with the help of several readers:

Back row, from left: linesman/team secretary John Burgin, Alan Cartwright, Keith Wilkins, goalkeeper John Wright, Lew Clark, Phil Weall, manager Johnny Johnson, Sgt Henry Bull. Front row, from left: not known, Jim MacDonald, Des Haggerty, captain Robert Hyde, Alf Henry, Tom/Ralph 'Taff' Jones, Derek Wynne.

There were variations of some name spellings, so the most popular variants have been listed. As well as supplying names, readers also provided the following additional information:

John Burgin was a retired police officer who worked as a civilian in the CID administration department at HQ. Chris Snow recalls: "He was involved with the running of a discount purchase scheme run by HQ sports club. Many of us

availed ourselves of 'Burgin Enterprises' when we first married and set up home." John Woodfitt adds: "He ran the best discount shopping office in the county and could arrange good discounts on everything from a pin to an aeroplane." Alan Cartwright retired as a chief inspector.

Johnny 'Sorbo' Johnson was also a leading light in Essex Police Musical Society. He retired as a traffic Pc and died soon after retiring. He worked with Des Haggerty on the Stolen Motor Vehicle Investigation Unit in the late 1960s.

Jim MacDonald retired as chief inspector. He says: "Seeing the photograph of the force football side brought back many happy memories of the teams I played in from 1955 to about 1965. We were very lucky to have had the generous facilities afforded to us during that era. Of the 11 players in the photograph it is sad to note that only six are still around."

Des Haggerty was a prolific goal-scoring centre forward. He worked with Johnny Johnson on the Stolen Motor Vehicle Investigation Unit in the late 1960s and also worked in various other fraud and specialist squads at HQ. Robert 'Bob' Hyde was a centre half,

now deceased. Alf Henry served at Harlow during the 1970s. He recalls: "The shield and the cups were there because we had won them the previous season – the Southern Area No. 5 District Shield, Southend Wednesday League and Cups. It was a great team in the early 1960s – we won everything and I remember we won ten cup finals on the trot."

Ralph/Tom 'Taff' Jones was the detective chief inspector on the Jeremy Bamber murder case. He died during the investigation, falling from a ladder at his home. Derek Wynne was a Chelsea footballer at one time and left the job while he was stationed at Epping. Both Robert Hyde's wife Miriam and Nina Clark, the wife of Lew Clark, wondered why only four players were wearing badges.

Jim MacDonald recalls no significant reason, putting it down to 'very limited finances' and Alf Henry backs that up, adding: "In those days we didn't have the fancy shirts of today – we just put on a shirt that fitted. Some had badges and some didn't."

Thanks to Mick Hicks, of Professional Standards, Nina Clark, Bob Cordery, Jim MacDonald, Jeff Murray, Chris Snow, Brian Squirrel, Barry Tarbun, Martin Thomerson, John Woodfitt, Alf Henry and Peter Bailey for their help.



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

TO Pc Darren Fountain:  
I AM writing to thank you for your help and support over the last month or so.

As you know, I'm back with my Mum now and not getting into any more trouble.

You really have helped me to see that I was so stupid.

Thank you so much again. Whenever you want a cup of tea, just give me a call on my phone and we can arrange it.

**AW  
Laindon**

I WISH to thank Pc Rob Edgar, Pc Leigh Rankin, Pc Melanie Nicholson, Pc Stephen King, Pc Faye Moore, Pc Sam Metcalfe, Pc Garry Neal, Pc Barry Burman and Pc Julian Noakes, who were involved in the rapid response to a call made from a mobile phone reporting a theft by a hooded youth who was preying on the vulnerable in Tesco's car park.

Having returned to my car rather weary and breathless, I placed my handbag and jacket in the back.

Within seconds, the door was opened and the bag taken. My husband, who is 81, got out and ran after him towards the river. My bag was thrown in the river.

The police were with my husband on the river side and it was recovered.

We went to the police station to make statements

and saw first hand the anger and foul-mouthed language that has to be dealt with by officers there.

Thank you all for your response and involvement.

**OM  
Great Dunmow**

TO the Chief Constable:  
I wanted to express my thanks for the outstanding support of both Harlow and Chelmsford-based officers with an exceptionally difficult situation.

This involved the transfer of a particularly challenging service-user from the psychiatric intensive care unit at Princess Alexandra Hospital in Harlow to the Christopher Unit at Broomfield Hospital in Chelmsford.

The prompt and professional support provided to the trust's staff by Pc Paul Ager and Pc Shaun Robinson to ensure that the situation did not escalate was greatly appreciated and highlights the excellent working relationship which has been developed with local police officers.

**North Essex Partnership NHS  
Foundation Trust**

TO Insp Chris Kilgallen:  
I wish to congratulate your officers who dealt with our missing daughter.

There turned out to be an innocent explanation for our daughter apparently disappearing from her bedroom and being unaccounted for for 13 hours but it was a truly awful event.

From the initial 999 call to her walking back through the door, we were dealt with in a commendable way.

Thank you for your excellent service, in particular Pc Alun Causaker and Sc Edward Lewsey, who came to the house and were methodical and not dismissive.

I also wish to thank the call operator who helped me to have some rational thought process and, again, took our concerns seriously.

**AT  
Ingatstone**

TO Insp Mick Pitcher:  
I would like you to know how proud I am of Pc Simon Faraday and Pc Karen Wood for saving the lives of two families of birds, which had nested in the eaves of the next-door house.

Someone had poked in spiked wires, trapping the baby chicks in the two nests.

The parents were very distressed and help was needed.

Pc Faraday and Pc Wood borrowed my ladder and climbed up to the top of the eaves and pulled out the wire.

I am so grateful to the two officers - they were so very kind and a credit to the police force.

**VC  
Earls Colne**

TO Insp Chris Kilgallen:  
I was unobservant in filling up my car with diesel rather than petrol. It was 9pm and the lighting was not good.

May I express my appreciation and gratitude for the prompt and caring attention I received in South Woodham Ferrers from Pc Bill Evans and PCSO Spencer Bond.

They made sure my husband - in Burnham - and I made the right decisions, giving wise advice on not

trying to tow the vehicle home.

In a friendly, confidence-creating manner, they communicated with us both, ascertaining that a breakdown vehicle was available.

They took me to the police station and maintained a reassuring, comforting conversation until I was safely on the breakdown truck.

There was no reluctance about the extra time they were working nor any complaint that they should have been on their way home.

I was a member of the public to be protected and guided in the right direction.

Their cheerfulness, determined efficiency and friendly care are worthy of commendation and praise.

**AO  
Burnham on Crouch**

TO PCSO Kay Fleming:  
On behalf of all those involved with the flower festival at All Saints' Church, Stock, I would like to thank you for all the help you and your colleagues gave us.

We realise there are many calls on your time and there were several other such events in the locality over the two days, so we are doubly grateful for the arrangements you made and for the support you gave.

**PC  
Stock**

MY husband and I were helped by the Domestic Abuse and Hate Crime Unit team and we would like to thank them for all their help.

Particularly Pc Chris Rhodes, who has gone above and beyond her duty with the human touch, by being compassionate and showing kindness, among many other qualities.

Without her, my husband and I would have remained victims.

Pc Rhodes should get an award - to someone like myself, who suffered domestic violence and abuse for many years - she struck every chord. That's a gift.

We can't thank her enough, she's a credit to the police force.

**SS  
Halstead**

TO Insp Kevan Griggs:  
Having recently been a victim of the theft of a door mirror from my car, I thought the police should be informed.

I rang the non-emergency number and spoke to a female operator, who was very polite, sympathetic and professional.

She informed me a local officer would make a house call. In the meantime, a scenes of crime officer phoned to ask some questions regarding evidence.

Pc Sarah Latchford arrived on time, took a statement and explained what would happen

about door-to-door enquiries etc.

She was very helpful, considerate and professional and a credit to Essex Police.

Pc Latchford phoned me a few days later to inform me of progress.

Overall, in my opinion, the treatment I received from Essex Police, especially Pc Latchford, was exemplary.

**PS  
Ramsey**

MY son and I would like to thank Pc Michael Bray, Pc Michelle Twin and Sc Daniel O'Connell for calling on me at 1.30am to see if I was alright.

My son lives in Lincolnshire and could not contact me after phoning for four hours.

He rang the police because he knew I was at home and thought I was in trouble.

May we both take this opportunity of thanking the police officers for checking that I was safe and well.

**MB  
Laindon**

TO Chief Insp Glen Westley:  
I wish to inform you that Pc Roy Porter carried out his duty in an excellent manner.

He was courteous, friendly and efficient while I was distressed after having my clothing, mobile phone and wallet stolen from the beach.

I just felt I had to write as so many only seem to write if there is a complaint.

Luckily there was a happy outcome as, because of Pc Porter's endeavours, I received all my property back, even the £15 cash in my wallet.

**NC  
Hutton**

I CALLED 999 to report a domestic disturbance at 12.03am.

Pc Eva Verlander and Pc Toby Daniel arrived at 12.14am, which was an absolutely fantastic service.

I express my gratitude to you for providing an outstanding service.

**DR  
Halstead**

TO the Chief Constable:  
I would like to thank Pc Marcus Baker for the prompt response and care I was shown when I was assaulted.

Not only did he and Pc Karen Wood respond quickly but within what seemed to be only a couple of hours, the suspect was found and taken into custody.

The next day Pc Baker came to my home to take my statement and, although I was nervous, his calm and caring manner put me totally at ease.

He explained everything so that I understood the steps we had to go through and he allowed me to take my time and didn't rush me.

He informed me that I would be contacted by Victim

Support and criminal justice agencies and that, in the meantime, if I had any questions or problems, I could always call him directly at Halstead police station, for which I was very grateful.

I was kept informed of developments all the way through the process, that the defendant had pleaded guilty to the charges and what the sentence was.

People have asked me if I'm nervous when I'm alone at home now and I tell everyone that I feel quite safe and don't intend to change what I do in any way.

I feel especially confident because I know that we have such an excellent police force, which we often take for granted.

Who needs superheroes when there are real-life ones in Essex Police like Pc Baker.

**IM  
Halstead**

TO Chief Insp Alan Gooden:  
On behalf of all our Year 6 pupils and parents, I would like to thank you for arranging for Sgt Monty Montgomery to assist us with our forensic science day.

His hard work, enthusiasm and expertise were central to the success of the project.

Each year, a fictional crime is committed at the school and our Year 6 pupils act as scenes of crime officers to assist the police in gathering and analysing evidence from the crime scene.

This summer, we set up a safe social-networking site and then linked information divulged by the pupils to the actual crime committed.

This raised many interesting issues of internet safety, which were handled by Sgt Montgomery directly with the pupils and in a well-received seminar with our parents.

Sgt Montgomery devoted the entire day to assisting us and his expertise was central to the pupils' understanding of the processes.

The hard work and kind co-operation of Essex Police was wonderful.

**St Margaret's Preparatory School  
Gosfield**

TO Sgt Mark McQuade:  
Thank you on behalf of the staff, parents and pupils for allowing PCSO Julie Kirrage, PCSO Rob Bailey and Sgt Miles Hillberry to attend our school event.

They were brilliant ambassadors for the force, giving time and patience to all.

They were happy to answer all the children's questions and the children loved exploring the police car.

We had a very successful day, both in terms of fund raising and in bringing our school community together.

The trio contributed positively to the event.

**Kingston Primary School  
Thundersley**



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TWENTY-five ACTION awards were made by the Bonus and Honoraria Panel last month.

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

Achievement focus; Customer first; Taking responsibility for performance; Inspiring high standards; Overcoming hurdles; Never accepting second-best. The recipients of £100 awards were: Pc Steve Allum, Pc Paul Hills, Pc Clem Clements, Pc Roy Keyes, Pc Martin Ackers, Pc Jonathan Harman and Pc Steve Perrett, all from Mobile Support Division road



policing units; traffic warden John O'Flaherty, of Stansted Airport Division; Sgt Lou Middleton, PCSO Helen Calver and Jan Hollingsworth, of Eastern Division; PCSO Kane Fredericks, of South Eastern Division; Pc Stuart Rose and

PCSO Eddie McKinley, of Central Division; Pc Simon Newman, of South Western Division; Susannah Reynolds, Matt Shaw, Richard Butler, Tim Thomas and Tracey Patterson, of the IT department; Christine Brock and Ian Rayner, of Financial Services; Zoe Abrams and Val Fuller, of Procurement; and Mark Holden, of Transport Services.

**HAVE YOUR SAY:** Write to Heather Turner, Law Letters, Internal Communications, Police HQ, PO Box 2, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6DA or email [heather.turner@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:heather.turner@essex.pnn.police.uk)  
 Letters and emails must be no longer than 300 words and must include your full name and home town. The deadline is the 20th of each month.  
 We reserve the right to edit or omit letters. Please be aware *The Law* is reproduced on the internet and circulated to the media.

## Last call for comrades

THE Essex Police Comrades' Association autumn lunch is on Friday, October 16 at Essex Police HQ.

The Sports Pavilion bar will be open from 11.30am and lunch will be served at 1pm in Essex Police College canteen.

A park and ride system will be in operation from Chelmer Retail Park, opposite the end of Sandford Road, with a minibus running between 11.15am and 1pm and again at the end of the lunch. Please note there will be no parking facilities at HQ.

If you have any special dietary requirements or mobility problems, please let my secretary, Marian Godwin, know as soon as possible on 01245 452797.

Please ensure that your booking form, together with a cheque for £20, made payable to Essex Police Comrades' Association is sent to me at the Police Federation Office, Stable Lodge, PO Box 2, Essex Police HQ, Springfield, Chelmsford CM2 6DA, to arrive no later than October 1.

For administrative reasons, any bookings after this date can only be included in the final numbers in exceptional circumstances.

**Tony Rayner**  
Secretary

Essex Police Comrades Association

# Blurring lines is just not on!

**LIKE many others, I enjoy *The Law* and its contents are informative and interesting.**

However, it was with disappointment I read one particular article since it, again, seems to support and assist in the blurring of the lines between sworn police officers and employed police community support officers (PCSOs).

Last month, you titled a story *'bobby' in the lobby* and then immediately indicated that the scheme is being carried out by PCSOs – indeed, there are comments from PCSO Gary Newton linking it to an initiative called Cuppa with a Copper.

Call me old-fashioned but the soubriquets 'bobby' and 'copper' refer, rightly and properly, to police officers – they are part of our heritage, the public understand the terms and, I'm sure, expect them to refer to sworn police officers.

Whilst the debate over PCSOs is too long to enter into here, and the initiative has merits, I must request, on behalf of those constables I am elected to represent, that you and *The Law* desist from the continual blurring of the lines.

Police officers, bobbies and coppers are sworn

Crown Officers, proud of their heritage and nicknames – in most cases!

PCSOs are employees and referring to them in such a fashion as above does little to value the police officers of this organisation and goes to further public confusion as to roles and responsibilities.

**Mick West**  
Secretary, Constables' Branch Board  
Essex Police Federation

● *Editor's note:* Thank you for pulling me up on a sloppy piece of sub-editing. The initiative in Basildon was called *Bobby in the Lobby* by local officers and I simply pinched it for a headline.

However, you are right, the article did not make clear that the scheme sees both PCSOs and neighbourhood specialist officers (NSOs) from the Fryerns Neighbourhood Policing Team talking to B&Q customers about any problems and offering crime prevention advice.

I can assure you that no disrespect to Essex police officers was intended but I would take issue with your point that *The Law* continually blurs the lines between police officers and PCSOs.

## Force survey for prisoners?

LAST month I read in a national newspaper that Devon and Cornwall Constabulary is surveying all prisoners to ensure that they are satisfied with their stay in the cells.

This is so that they can improve their service. I trust the force will have sufficient staff on duty to cater for the prisoners' every need!

**Jack Faulkner**  
Southend

● Supt Chris Brown, head of Devon and Cornwall's Criminal Justice Unit, says the survey will ensure Devon and Cornwall Constabulary is treating those in its custody in accordance with national regulations.

As part of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act all forces must meet requirements in terms of the welfare of detainees.

He adds that the force must remember not all those in custody are charged with a crime and that, for some, the custody centre is used as a place where members of the public, not guilty of any crime, can be assessed under the Mental Health Act.

"While in custody, police officers need to ensure detainees receive any appropriate medical care. This time in custody is also an ideal means to offer support for drink and drug addictions and welfare issues which need to be addressed," he says.

## Register with trust for help

THE Police Dependants' Trust was formed to help officers and their dependants.

The trust urges you to register with the trust as it may be able to help you in the future. It exists to assist dependants of police officers or former police officers who die, or have died, as a result of an injury received on duty and police officers or former police officers who are, or have been incapacitated, as a result of an injury on duty.

There is no cost involved in registering. For further information, contact Mick Tarbin at the Welfare Office at Essex Police HQ on 0300 333 4444 ext 58601, your local National Association of Retired Police Officers (NARPO) secretary or visit [www.pdtrust.org](http://www.pdtrust.org)

**Peter Yorke-Wade**  
Secretary, Southend NARPO branch

## Sad news from community safety patrol

I AM sorry to have to tell readers of *The Law* that community safety patrol dog Kalib – featured in last month's issue – has had to be put to sleep.

He collapsed on patrol and was taken to a veterinary surgery where he was diagnosed with cancer of the spleen. He was put on a drip but, on further examination, it was found that the tumour was bleeding internally and nothing could be done to save him.

The bond between Kalib and his handler, community ranger Doug

Niven, was exceptionally strong.

Kalib was appreciated for his unquestioning devotion, unique personality and independent character. Throughout his long career, Kalib was Doug's protection from danger, deterrent when in sticky situations and faithful partner.

He loved his job apprehending those doing wrong, troublemakers causing a nuisance, vandals, and day-to-day duties patrolling Harlow's Towns Park, many woodlands, playgrounds,

council buildings and public areas.

Kalib was a faithful servant of Harlow Council and a very important member of the Community Safety Team, one of the only accredited dogs in Essex. He was known and loved by the community as a hard-working dog who will be missed by his handler Doug Niven and colleagues. His memory will be held in high esteem.

**Tracey Gray**  
Community Safety Team  
Harlow Council



## Feature

# Trained volunteers ready to help with *your* missing person search

**OFFICERS and PCSOs know that lives may be at stake during incidents involving high-risk vulnerable missing people.**

A thorough search for missing people, such as the elderly, dementia patients, children or potential suicides, can be both time and resource-intensive.

However, help is at hand from a trained group of volunteers on call 24 hours a day.

Essex Search and Rescue (EssexSAR) was formed in 2002 and since then its volunteers have undertaken more than 180 searches for missing people, both in Essex and the surrounding counties.

Its 35 team members regularly train in search techniques, planning and management and are self-sufficient in terms of equipment and communications.

Essex SAR chairman Matt Cloke said: "Between them, our team members have many years of experience in searching for high-risk missing people and have worked alongside Essex Police on numerous occasions.

"We've never yet turned down a request for assistance, despite often being called at very unsocial hours or in particularly inclement weather!"

A control vehicle is kept on permanent standby at Mobile Support Division at Boreham and it contains all the necessary 'tools' to plan and conduct searches for missing people, including countywide mapping, GPS (global positioning system) units and first aid equipment.

Essex SAR team members work with police search team leaders and police officers – to enable the smooth flow of information – and have, on occasion, been asked to use their skills to advise on the management of a search for a missing person.

The team is a member of the Association of Lowland Search and Rescue (ALSAR), a national organisation which sets common standards for all lowland search and rescue teams across the UK.

The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) recognises ALSAR as being an organisation whose member teams are encouraged to be used in the search for high-risk missing people, where appropriate.

Membership of ALSAR brings the additional advantage that more volunteers can be called upon from neighbouring teams in Kent, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire in the event of particularly long, wide-ranging or high-profile searches.

● To request the assistance of EssexSAR during the search for a high-risk missing person, contact the duty police search adviser (PolSA), who will advise whether the deployment of the team would be appropriate in the circumstances.

The duty PolSA should be contacted via the Force Information Room (FIR) duty inspector.

● For more information on the EssexSAR team and the searches with which it has been involved, visit [www.essexsearchandrescue.org.uk](http://www.essexsearchandrescue.org.uk)



● Members of Essex Search and Rescue conduct a search for a high-risk missing person





## 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 casadomi02@hotmail.com

**FLORIDA**, luxury, four-bed villa, private heated pool near Disney World, Xmas still available, free brochure, police discount 01702 586092 or visit www.my-florida-villa.net

**FLORIDA**. Luxury villa 4 double-beds, 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 on 01245 465690, 07971 482022 or email maryjane66@hotmail.co.uk

**MUNDESLEY**, Norfolk, two-bedroom house, sleeps four to six, 400 yards from beach. 20 per cent police discount, from £165. Ring Paul on 07983 888159 or visit www.essex2norfolk.com

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

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

**SKI** apartment, Bansko, Bulgaria. Great skiing at cheap prices, near main gondola. Sleeps 4/5, sauna, jacuzzi from £225 per week. Contact Dave Britton on 07802 799193.

**SOUTH** Africa 2010 World Cup, Luxury self catering accommodation, restaurant and pub, large discounts available, contact D Price via email at d.price@mapri.co.uk or on 07969 744427 quoting POL1.

**SPAIN**, Algora. Close to Alicante and Murcia airports. Apartment, 2 bed sleeps 6, close to golf, pool on complex. Price negotiable. Contact Steve 07949 723234.

**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.

**WELLS**-next-the-Sea, Norfolk. Warm, stylish and traditional Victorian cottage. Period features, courtyard garden, private parking. Summer and winter breaks available. Close to quayside, shops and beautiful sandy beach. Visit www.norfolkdreams.com or ring 07976 720022 for details.

## 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

**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

**COTBED** Victorian pine including mattress with removable zip-off cover for washing, teething rails suitable from birth to 4 years. Excellent condition £95. Contact Amanda on 01245 357369.

**FORD** KA, red, 05 plate, full service history, MOT, taxed until March 2010. One owner 40,000 miles £3,295 ONO. Contact Brian on 07754 465091.

**OVEN** double under, induction hob, gas hob and extractor. Cost over £2,000 as new condition £750 ONO. Phone 01621 743071 or 07753 269053.

**QUINNY** Buzz stroller with Dreami carry cot, black. Bought for £550 would like £250 ONO. Immaculate condition. Contact Karis Fox on 07595 846506.

**RENAULT** Clio 1.2 Dynamique 3dr, green, 54 reg, 36000 miles, 9 months tax, alloys, sports seats, electric sun roof, air con, 6 CD multichanger. Great condition, 1 owner. £4,200 ONO. Contact Sam on 07789 965073.

**VICTORY** Vegas Allen Ness signature series motorbike 2006 1507cc 1,600 miles, two months' tax remaining, custom red and black paint. Full service history. £9,995 contact Chris on 07903 702748.



● Maria Georgiou

Picture courtesy of Echo Newspapers



● Peter Doherty

Picture by Denise Harvey

# A new chaplain to minister to Western

## WESTERN Division has a new chaplain – Peter Doherty.

Since he has started work, he says he has received a positive response from the public to his role as police chaplain as he has engaged with them, as well as from church and community leaders.

And he is looking forward to serving the police family, already being involved with both police officers and staff in a professional capacity and socially.

For the past 31 years he has been pastor of Harlow's Gateway Christian Fellowship.

From Dundee, Peter has a military background, having served with the Scots Guards and the Black Watch.

On leaving the Army, he trained as an ambulance technician and worked with the Scottish Ambulance Service before taking up a post with police in Dundee as a civilian police driver.

It was during this time that things began to change for him, due to a conversion experience. He said: "Jesus felt my collar and 'arrested' me but He didn't put the cuffs on, He took them off and set me free."

Since then, as well as becoming pastor of the Gateway Christian Fellowship, he has also been director of primary health care for Links International, working in many African countries as well as India and Sri Lanka, teaching rural village people primary health care and emergency first aid.

Through his work in South Africa, Peter had the privilege of meeting

President Nelson Mandela and, at the president's request, took his health care team to Mr Mandela's home village.

### Moves

South Eastern crime manager Lesley Ford has been appointed temporary DCI.

### Retirements

Sgt **Simon Ford**, 47, retired this month after 30 years' service. He began his career in 1979 in Harlow and then transferred to South Benfleet before spending time at Laindon, Rayleigh and Brentwood traffic units.

A spell in Thurrock followed, and then a transfer to Basildon, first on the response team and then in custody. He ended his career at South Western Incident Management Unit.

Pc **Jacque Barber**, 57, also retires after 30 years' service this month after a career on South Eastern Division, finishing as a Safer Schools Partnership officer with Castle Point Neighbourhood Policing Team.

### Obituaries

Former Chief Supt **Len White**, of Chelmsford, has died, aged 80.

Mr White served from 1951 to 1981 at Romford, Chelmsford, Clacton, Rayleigh, CID, HQ, Basildon and in Personnel and Inspection at HQ.

Donations may be made in his memory to Leukaemia Research and sent c/o Pennack and Sons funeral directors, 1-3 Maldon Road, Chelmsford, CM2 7DW.

Ex-sergeant **Adrian Keeble**, of Colchester, has died, aged 80. He leaves a widow Lilian.

Mr Keeble served from 1952 to 1977 at Harwich, Elsenham,

Braintree, Hornchurch, Stisted, Pitsea, and Wickford.

Donations may be made in his memory to Cancer Research and sent c/o R Gwinnell and Sons, 112 Ipswich Road, Colchester, CO4 0AA.

### Awards

**Maria Georgiou**, Neighbourhood Watch manager for Castle Point, has been presented with her MBE by the Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Lord Petre, at a special ceremony at Runnymede Hall, Benfleet.

Maria was named in the Queen's Birthday Honours earlier this year in recognition of her outstanding voluntary contribution to Neighbourhood Watch in the area over the past 17 years.

Temporary ACC Maurice Mason told those present that Maria epitomised those individuals in the community with real concern for others and who, through their efforts and support for the police, helped make the community safer.

Security Systems administrator **Denise Field**, of Communications Division, has passed her level 2 NVQ in team leading.

Chief Supt **Jed Stopher** has been awarded a BA (Hons) degree in crowd and event management by the Bucks New University.

Sgt **Roy Tucker**, of Brentwood, has been awarded an FdA (a foundation degree) in police studies by the University of Portsmouth.

Counter-terrorism security advisers Dc **Wayne Lagden** and Dc **Dave Puffett**, of Crime Division, have been awarded a City and Guilds Licentiatehip in counter-terrorism security management.

## 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.



# News

## Day one success for pilot Colchester scheme

JUST an hour after the launch of a pilot project in Colchester, officers made their first arrest.

The innovative partnership project aims to reduce both crime and the fear of it and make the town an even safer place in which to live and work.

And on September 1, officers arrested a 19-year-old from north London on suspicion of possession and intent to supply Class A drugs. He is on police bail until early next month.

The officers had been walking the beat in Monkwick on the first day of the Safer Colchester Project.

The scheme is sponsored by the county's Safer Essex Partnership (SEP) and will encompass new ways of working between Essex Police, Essex County Council, Colchester Borough Council and the Colchester Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

The SEP has provided £100,000 for the year-long pilot and this has been match by the other agencies involved from existing resources and/or staffing.

The team will focus on individual areas for up to four months, identifying local problems which need to be resolved. After 12 months, an evalua-

tion will consider whether the scheme should be rolled out in other parts of Essex.

Colchester inspector Andy Fusher said he was pleased to see how successful the first day had been.

"It was an excellent start to what is going to be a really beneficial project for the area.

"And, later on in the day, a group of nuisance youths riding mini-motos were moved on.

"This incident and the earlier arrest were down to officers talking to people in the community and they are exactly the kind of results we want this project to achieve."



## Tennis players reach every regional final

THE Essex Police lawn tennis section had their most successful regional tournament ever – reaching the final of every section they entered.

First, Dan Thrale notched up a notable success in the men's singles at the eastern region PSUK national-qualifying lawn tennis tournament in Norfolk.

This has never before been won by an Essex officer but Thrale got through to the final, where he faced Suffolk's Ian Moore, a fellow member of the British Police team who has won several national titles

At one set-all, Thrale found himself 5-1 down in the third and final set but staged a tremendous fightback to win 10-8 and take the title.

The men's doubles was a repeat of last year's final where defending champions Thrale and Tony Sharman faced the Norfolk pair of Jon Chapman and Roger Clarke – captain of the British Police team – who had only narrowly won their semi-final against the Essex second pairing of Keith Draycott and Len Jarman.

Thrale and Sharman are believed to be the first ever men's doubles winners for Essex in regional tennis. And they took the title for the second year running with a straight-sets victory.

Alison Oddy had a comfortable straight-sets victory over Lauren Brady, of Suffolk, in the women's singles final.

In the mixed doubles, Debbie Lincoln partnered Harman against the Suffolk pairing of Laura Brady and Ollie Howard and, again, took a straight-sets win.

In the women's doubles and the veterans' doubles, the Essex pairings of Oddy and Lincoln and Jeanette Poston and Frances Harrison were the sole entries so all went through uncontested.

Only the result of the men's veterans' doubles prevented an Essex clean sweep.

Mark Wheeler and Terry Bragg faced the experienced Suffolk pair of Ian Moore and Graham Coult, who have won many national doubles titles. They defeated Essex in straight sets.

The national finals are due to be held this month in Winchester.

## Officers retain their record

A COMMUNITY match was held between local police officers and a Jaywick youth group.

It was the second game played between the force and the Jaywick Inclusion Group and officers from Essex Police – the first was in April.

PCSO James Pamment, who organised the event, said the game had been fairly even throughout with both teams showing some quality football.

However, the police retained their unbeaten record, winning 10-7.

PCSO Pamment said: "Events like this are a really good way for us to get to know young people in the area."



● Mark Talbot, of Harwich Neighbourhood Policing Team, and Steve Hutley, of Stanway Dog Section

**TWO officers recorded personal best times when they competed in the PSUK cycling time trials. Mark Talbot and Steve Hutley travelled to Bickerstaffe on Merseyside to take part in both ten-mile and 25-mile time trials. The ten-mile course took in a flat section of dual-carriageway and rural roads in favourable weather conditions. Hutley recorded a personal best time (PB) of 25mins 43secs and Talbot also finished in a PB of 26:27. The 25-mile trial took place the following day on an undulating course which also incorporated a section of dual-carriageway. However, the weather was less favourable than it had been the previous day and riders were confronted with a strong headwind along the dual-carriageway. Sadly, despite the previous day's successes, this resulted in both finishing in times well outside their PBs – Hutley recorded 1hr 9mins 16secs and Talbot finished in 1:11:09.**

## Two wins and two draws for the Gents

THE Gents of Essex CID cricket team have been performing well of late.

They beat Galleywood with their highest total of the season – 267 for four. Galleywood were 242 all out.

At Audley End, the Gents knocked up 247 runs for four wickets – this was enough to secure a six-wicket win.

Rain ensured an honourable draw against Barry Hearn's Select XI, the Select XI having been restricted to 191 with a Gents reply of 93 for four.

And they also drew their new fixture against the Two Counties Over-50s – batting out the overs after Two Counties declared on 242 for three.

# Cricketers in final 'first'

**The Essex Police cricket team have reached the PSUK national final for the first time in the competition's 34-year history.**

Cheshire were the semi-final visitors to Elmstead Grasshoppers Cricket Club.

They had beaten West Mercia, Durham and the Metropolitan Police in earlier rounds and included current British Police cricket star Ray Doyle in the team.

Essex batted first on a hard, dusty wicket. Dave Jackson and Luke Gamman got the innings off to a solid start against the visitors' pacy opening attack.

Once Gamman was dismissed, Jon Butcher and then Dave Newman added quick runs, supported well by Jackson, who made 61.

Kevin Cooper and Dave Roberts were

dismissed for ducks but Keith Sargeant held the innings together with 33 before the tail got the total up to 216.

Both Cheshire openers were dismissed by fast-bowlers Ady Garnham and Dave Roberts. Doyle and Barnett formed an important partnership to take the visitors' total towards 100

But the introduction of spinners Sargeant and Chris Roper into the Essex attack proved vital as they picked up four vital wickets.

With 40 runs needed from six overs, with three wickets in hand, Cheshire were favourites but the re-introduction of opening bowlers Roberts and Garnham turned the game on its head.

Roberts dismissed the dangerous Fisher and then Garnham trapped Warren leg before wicket for one, before cart-wheeling Jones' off stump out of the ground, to give the hosts a 37-run win.

The final at Scarborough on September 10 will be against hot

favourites Dyfed-Powys Police.

● THE cricketers beat South Yorkshire Police in their quarter-final match despite a tricky start, losing three wickets for just 21 runs.

However, the batting partnership of Kevin Cooper and Dave Newman added 90 before Newman was out for 46. Cooper lasted a little longer, reaching his half-century before being caught.

Luke Gamman, Keith Sargeant and captain Ady Garnham took the score up to 190 – the final three batsmen fell without scoring a run between them.

However, Garnham and Gamman bowled tightly, backed up by Chris Roper and Richard Dines, to reduce South Yorkshire to 145-six.

Even so, the visitors only needed 11 runs with three overs left and three wickets in hand but Garnham bowled out the last three without conceding a run to leave Essex victorious by ten runs.

# Heroic defending ensures a rugby win

THE newly re-formed men's rugby union side won their first match of the season – heroic defending against a well-drilled Bishop's Stortford side ensured they hung on for a 27-29 win.

Only two of the Essex team had represented the force before.

It was clear from the outset that, although it was a friendly match, neither side was going to give anything away easily and Essex conceded two tries in the first ten minutes.

But the forwards, led by captain and prop Myles Bradley, started winning balls and frustrating the opposition. Soon, fellow prop Andy Drake took the ball off the back of a maul, passed to scrum-half Craig Pledger who hit a magnificent cross-field kick for winger Paul Sheldrake to catch and score with.

Dogged defence by the entire team frustrated the opposition which resulted in a Bishop's Stortford prop being sin-binned and Pledger being awarded a penalty try when he was taken out off the ball while chasing it towards the try-line.

Essex continued in much the same vein in the second half with further tries

● Action from the Croker Cup rugby sevens

Picture by Heather Turner



from Sheldrake, Pledger and centre Rob Wingar, who converted two of them.

Bishop's Stortford staged a late comeback but Essex Police held out with some heroic defence work to win.

● The force's men's and women's sides welcome more players. They train regularly at HQ and are hoping to organise matches for both teams next

month. For more information, contact Myles Bradley, Andy Drake or Emily Gizzi via email

● THE force's first Croker Cup rugby sevens tournament say South Eastern take the honours by winning all of their matches.

Western were runners up, followed by South Western and then Eastern.

# August lottery prize finds its way to Southend

SOUTHEND Dc Robert Evans took the £3,000 top prize in the August force lottery draw.

Sgt Mark Wilson, of Witham, took the £1,000 second prize and Dc Ralph Froud, of Tilbury, won third prize of £500.

Winners of £100 prizes were:

Sgt Steven Taylor, of Grays; Pc Andrew Ennis, of Brentwood; Kate Taylor, of Thurrock; Sophie Hammonds, of Thurrock; Pc Anthony Kopf, of Rochford;

Amy Pitt, of HQ Crime Division; Kay Meiklejohn, retired; Enid Turner, of the Crime Bureau; Karen Wilson, of Colchester; Michael Saunders, retired; Dc Alex Baker, of Southend; and Sgt Mark Estall, of the Force Support Unit (FSU).

Winners of £50 prizes were: Pc Paul Gridley, of Essex Police College; Pc Keith Blissett, of Mobile Support Division; Sam Barkway, of the Essex

Police Sports Association; Robert Owen, of Chelmsford; Douglas Foley, of Harlow; Kerri Bowden, of Debden; Helen Knightley, of Loughton; Marian Godwin, of Essex Police Federation; Pc Barry Knights, of FSU; Margaret Coles, of HR; Mark Jones, of Basildon; Pc Kevin Thomas, of FSU; Charles Clark, retired; Pc Melanie Mullender, of Great Yeldham; Pc Claire Pollard, of Pitsea; and Colin Stiff, of Colchester.

## Duo bring back medals

EASTERN Division's Skelly Lambert and Steve Tyrrell were part of a successful British Police tug-of-war team competing in the World Police and Fire Games in Canada.

The team won golds in all weights – light, heavy and super-heavy.

Each team consisted of six pullers and a coach and the British teams totally dominated, not dropping an end to other teams.

In part this was due to excellent team selection by Lambert, who was appointed the British squad captain.

He won two gold medals and a bronze, while Tyrrell brought home gold, silver and bronze.

● FRESH from destroying the opposition at the national tug-of-war championships, Eastern's Skelly Lambert was selected to represent the British Police team at the annual tri-services competition.

Lambert was supported by a team comprising officers from City of London, Staffordshire, Bedfordshire and the Metropolitan Police.

The team pulled in all four weight classes, winning the Catchweight and the 680kg section – which the police hadn't won since 1998 – and coming second in the 600kg.

The Combined Services won the 600 and 640kg sections.

● To find out more about tug-of-war, email Skelly Lambert or Steve Tyrrell



● Christian Robinson ext 58883



### New staff

THE Essex Police Sports Association is pleased to welcome Chris Bartlett as its new administrator. Chris will be helping with member benefits for the association as well as giving support to the club steward and shop manager.

We are also in the process of looking for a new club secretary to replace John Stonehouse, who is set to retire again towards the end of this year.

John has been invaluable to the association over the years and we hope we can find someone who will be able to fill his large cricket shoes.

With all these changes I thought it would be a good idea to remind members how to contact us – just call the force's non-emergency number 0300 333 4444 and key in the relevant extension number:

Christian Robinson, chief executive, ext 58888; John Mackenzie, finance officer (membership), ext 58885; Sam Barkway, club steward (function room bookings), ext 58884; Jo Baker, shop manager (ticket sales), ext 58883; Chris Bartlett, administrator (member benefits), ext 58889.



● The A12 Alliance patrol unit is based at Mobile Support Division in Boreham. Members are pictured with, centre from left, Essex Police Authority chairman Robert Chambers, ACC Derek Benson and Cllr Norman Hume, chairman of the A12 Alliance and Essex County Council Cabinet member for highways and transportation

# A12 patrols to bust congestion

**THE UK's first local authority-funded and enhanced road patrols to help tackle congestion have started work along the A12.**

The new patrols, operated by Essex Police officers, will be dedicated to reaching and dealing with incidents even more quickly to ensure that congestion is kept to a minimum.

More than 800 incidents were reported along the Essex stretch of the A12 in 2007 and, on one occasion it had to be closed for 24 hours after a fire.

The new A12 patrols – launched on September 1 – were one of the recommendations of Essex County Council's A12 Inquiry, which called for funding for the creation of a 'blue light' service to deal with

by Morwenna Holland

congestion along the route. The A12 Inquiry was the first public inquiry into a major road held by a local authority, and resulted in the creation of a partnership of local and national agencies – the A12 Alliance.

The new patrol unit consists of three sergeants, 15 constables and three patrol vehicles, working from Mobile Support Division in Boreham. It is funded by an Essex County Council grant of £1.5million.

ACC Derek Benson said: "The A12 patrols will operate 365 days a year, seven days a week, from 6am until midnight, ensuring that the road is as clear and safe as possible."

"The unit will focus on clearing incidents but will also work to prevent them by continuing every day police activities, clamping down on driving offences such as speeding, driving

whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs and driving whilst using a mobile telephone."

"We are the first force in the country to operate such a unique patrol scheme on one of the county's main roads."

"We have worked hard, with other agencies, to ensure this initiative was delivered at the earliest opportunity and I now look forward to seeing the positive impact it will have."

Essex County Council leader Lord Hanningfield said the A12 Alliance patrols were a direct result of the A12 Inquiry, which had sought to solve the problem of the road's congestion.

"Our residents tell us they are fed up with delays on the route and congestion on the A12 and they are holding our economy back from meeting its potential," he said.

Cllr Norman Hume, chairman of the A12 Alliance and Essex County Council Cabinet

member for highways and transportation, said: "While accidents and incidents certainly won't become a thing of the past, we are hopeful they will be cleared much more quickly, enabling our residents to keep moving."

"I'd like to thank the police for their assistance in operating the patrols and the Highways Agency for its positive input towards their deployment."

The A12 is owned and operated by the Highways Agency which sees the new patrols as complementary to its own incident support units.

Gwyn Drake, regional director of the Highways Agency, said: "These patrols will substantially add to the existing police presence on the A12 and will build on the collaborative work we have already been undertaking with the police to deal with incidents on the A12."



# Helicopter drafted in to improve A13 safety

THERE are more than 1,656 reasons to take extra care on the A13.

For that is the number of road casualties recorded between January 2004 and May 2009 – this includes 24 deaths and 213 serious injuries.

Now Operation Spalding aims to raise public awareness of additional enforcement taking place on the busy road over the next few months.

We are using marked and unmarked police vehicles, automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) and the force helicopter along the entire road.

The helicopter crew will observe, record and detect offences and driver behaviour.

Chief Insp John Walker, temporary head of road policing, said: "This evidence will be crucial when we take people to court."

"We want people to realise the A13 can be a dangerous road and it is up to all of us to help to make it safe – you can't put a value on saving someone from being injured or killed."

"This operation aims to address particular driver and bike-rider behaviour which causes many of the collisions and casualties on the A13."

Road policing officers, backed up by the helicopter will be targeting poor driver behaviour and such issues as not wearing seatbelts, illegal mobile phone

use, speeding, driving under the influence of drink or drugs and other anti-social behaviour.

Chief Insp Walker said that around ten per cent of motorists didn't wear seatbelts despite legislation being introduced 30 years ago.

"I don't want it to take that long to change people's behaviour about mobile phone use while they are driving," he added.

To date, the force has issued more than 9,000 tickets for mobile phone use.

Statistics show that the majority of collisions on the A13 involve drivers aged 17-20, and drivers or bike riders aged 21-25 and 36-40.

The most common causes of collisions are: failing to judge the speed of other vehicles; failing to look properly; loss of control; careless or reckless driving; and being in a hurry or in a rush.

During June and July, 598 vehicles were stopped along the A13 and 13 were seized. A total of 514 tickets were issued for endorsable and non-endorsable offences, such as speeding, not wearing seatbelts and mobile phone use.

And five arrests were made for suspected drink-driving and other non-motoring offences.

Distinctive signs warn A13 motorists of the possibility that offences can be detected from the air.

Other publicity surrounding Operation Spalding includes advertising on the backs of buses and on petrol pumps and the distribution of leaflets to motorists and at garages sited along the A13 and on 'feeder' roads.

The operation also has a designated email address – a13@essex.pnn.police.uk – so the public can notify us of problems, incidents or concerns about the route.

● THE Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) Desk in the Force Information Room is responsible for monitoring and circulating the details of vehicles which have activated ANPR 'hotlist' alarms.

ANPR Desk staff can add vehicles quickly to the ANPR system, which aids the recovery of stolen vehicles and the seizure of vehicles which have no insurance – they also submit CID 61s and create intelligence packages for the ANPR intercept teams.

Contact the desk for more details of how ANPR can help in the detection of crime, to let staff know about people or vehicles to add to the ANPR 'hotlist' or if you have an investigation they may be able to help with.

Officers can contact the ANPR Desk on ext 53932 or on 01245 452525 or email the FIR ANPR Desk (and not as stated last month). The desk is usually staffed between 8am and 2am

● Enforcement patrols – the A13 Stanford le Hope bypass  
Picture by Mark Shelley, Air Support Unit