

# The Law



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

October 2009

ACPO recognition for initiative to fund 600 extra police officers

## APEX WINS AWARD IN ITS FIRST YEAR



**AGAINST strong competition from police forces across the UK, Operation APEX has won an ACPO Excellence in Policing Award.**

The force's innovative and cost-effective approach to policing was one of four projects short-listed for presentation at the ACPO Excellence in Policing Awards ceremony last month.

The news came as Operation APEX – the ambition for policing in Essex – celebrated its first year with the news that it has put an extra 239 police officers on the streets of Essex.

Investment on this scale would have cost the taxpayer almost £11million but the force has found the money through cost savings, income generation and partnership funding.

Operation APEX was launched in September 2008 and aims to find £27million through recurrent savings over the next three to five years and put an extra 600 officers back

by **Claire Elliott & Morwenna Holland**

on the streets of Essex during that time.

APEX programme manager Supt Alison Newcomb said after last month's awards ceremony: "Winning an ACPO Excellence in Policing Award for 2009 is wonderful recognition for our ground-breaking initiative to find massive savings in the force's budget and reinvest them in front-line policing."

"With ambitious targets and a difficult economic climate, many would have considered this project almost impossible. It just shows what you can accomplish if you put your mind to it."

"I am very proud of what we have achieved. At the very core of Operation APEX are values which I think every force should adopt."

The awards conference was attended by policing professionals, including delegates from the Home Office, ACPO and the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA).

In line with public demand, the force has increased the number of its police officers numbers by more than 500 in the past five years, taking our current police officer strength to just over 3,600 – a rise of 16 per cent.



During the same period, nationally, the number of police officers has grown by just 2.7 per cent, with 16 forces reducing officer numbers.

Essex's growth is the highest proportionate increase of all 43 police forces in England and Wales.

Finding the funding for an extra 239 police officers – 189 constables, 36 sergeants, ten inspectors, three chief inspectors and one superintendent – in just 12 months means that Operation APEX is a major contributor to this "fantastic 500" growth.

The new officer posts have been distributed across key areas of Neighbourhood Policing as well as specialist Protective Services, including counter-terrorism, child protection, public protection and the automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) team.

Deputy Chief Constable Andy Bliss said: "Operation APEX aims to grow police officer numbers by 600 over a three to five year period in order to achieve a total of more than 4,000 police officers, particularly on foot and bike."

"By investing approximately £1.5million in each of the five territorial policing divisions, we have already increased the number of neighbourhood police officers by 153 – every division has received between 30 and 33 extra officers."

"Essex Police has continued to demonstrate its commitment to giving the public what they want by putting more officers back on the beat."

Essex Police Authority chairman Robert Chambers added: "As the flagship change programme for Essex Police and Essex Police Authority for the next three to five years, I am extremely pleased to see the success Operation APEX has had in the first year."

"By making savings in a number of areas, it has been possible to strengthen front-line services, increasing visibility and reassurance throughout our communities."

Operation APEX has introduced almost 60 new APEX recruits to Essex Police College since April.



# Forward together

**"ALL that we do must be in the best interests of the people of Essex," Mr Barker-McCardle tells those attending his roadshows.**

"And my intention is to make Essex the safest place in the country, with the best policing."

As the 11th chief constable of Essex, he says he is in the "envious position of inheriting a very strong ship but touches on the tiller are required without disrupting those things which we are doing well".

"There is only one way to travel and that is forward," he says. "There is only one way to go forward and that is together."

"We have made a significant contribution to the success of policing nationally and we are not infrequent contributors to mutual aid for other forces."

"We must continue to set out what success looks like and I think we should be bold about it. And when we have significant success then we should celebrate it."

Mr Barker-McCardle says that the force will know when it has achieved his vision of making Essex the safest place in the country because:

- ☛ The people of Essex will tell us that, when they have contact with us, we are polite and prompt, we do what we say we'll do and we are accessible and visible
- ☛ Those who have had no direct contact with us will say that, based on what they see and hear, they trust us
- ☛ Confidence and satisfaction will continue to rise while reported crime and anti-social behaviour will keep falling
- ☛ Those who hold elected office and all members of Essex Police Authority will be

**Chief Constable Jim Barker-McCardle has pledged to meet as many police officers and staff as possible to gauge their views, while sharing his own vision and priorities for the force.**

**During his first month in the job, he embarked on a series of roadshows, encouraging officers and staff to speak out and tell him how they think the force can move forward in working to make Essex the safest place in the country**

confident that we understand and demonstrate accountability to the people of Essex and that Essex is an increasingly safe place

- ☛ Our partners will say we provide leadership, innovation, good problem-solving and results
- ☛ We will be regarded as an innovative force within the policing family, with ambitious plans which produce consistently high levels of performance right across the policing landscape
- ☛ We will secure top-quartile and top-performer status in those areas we agree matter most
- ☛ We will be known to network extensively in the pursuit of good practice and contribute actively to national thinking
- ☛ Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) will say that the force is doing a very good job in terms of local crime and policing, increasing public confidence and satisfaction, delivering value for money and productivity, protecting people from serious harm and managing the organisation
- ☛ We will be praised as a learning organisation
- ☛ Our police officers and staff will say they are well-led, well-equipped, well-trained and proud to work for Essex Police.

Mr Barker-McCardle emphasises the

essential contribution of Neighbourhood Policing in tackling local crime and anti-social behaviour and further improving public confidence.

He also stresses the importance of consistently and effectively tackling serious crime and offending, saying: "The threat, harm and risk from our more determined offenders, if left unchecked, would manifest itself in neighbourhoods in a way that we would not tolerate."

"Safer and protected neighbourhoods must be our inspiration, with the whole organisation mobilising to make Essex and all our neighbourhoods ever safer."

He makes plain his commitment to the APEX programme as "entirely in the interests of the people of Essex" and underlines his determination to pursue collaboration with neighbouring forces where, through improved resilience, higher standards or savings it will be in the interests of the people of Essex.

Mr Barker-McCardle ends by telling his audiences: "I care passionately about policing in Essex in particular. I'm very proud to be part of Team Essex."

"We have a great foundation and many good things are happening."

"We are still capable of much more and I look forward to working with you in the years ahead."



## Our principles

- ☛ The constant and spontaneous demonstration of public service values
- ☛ We are neighbourhood-inspired, citizen-focused and intelligence-led
- ☛ The relentless pursuit and capture of the lawless and disorderly
- ☛ Remarkable value for money
- ☛ Outstanding leadership at all levels, all the time
- ☛ We develop and cherish the best workforce in policing
- ☛ We respect, understand and enjoy diversity
- ☛ Top-quality contributions to partnership working
- ☛ Ground-breaking collaboration with other forces
- ☛ A passion for learning and continual improvement



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● Chief Constable Jim Barker-McCardle delivers his vision for the future, top, as police officers and staff listen intently, above  
Pictures by Duncan Gregory

## Taking pride in our success

RECENT force successes are outlined by Operation APEX programme director Rick Tazzini.

Recorded crime in Essex has dropped by almost 22,000 incidents since 2004/05, and incidents of anti-social behaviour have fallen by 27,000 since 2006/07, while the force's sanctioned detection rate has risen to approx 35 per cent.

We take pride in doing business differently. We were the first force in the country to launch the Policing Pledge, we reintroduced the Mounted Unit and Operation Velo has seen police officers and PCSOs cycle more than 30,000 miles.

A raid on a house in Bardfield Saling led to the discovery of both a gun and a



cannabis factory – the trial was due to finish as *The Law* went to print – and Peter Tobin is due to go on trial in December, charged with the murder of Tillingham teenager Dinah McNicol in 1991, following a major crime review of the case.

Operation APEX – the Ambition for Policing in Essex – has found the cash to put an extra 239 uniformed police officers on the streets of Essex in its first year – a move that will help to improve public

confidence. After landing at Stansted Airport for his visit to the G20 summit in London, US President Barack Obama has said he will always use the airport in future, so impressed was he by our policing operation.

And we are now the lead force for counter-terrorism in the region – all staff at the Eastern Region Counter-Terrorism Intelligence Unit (CTIU) are now employed by Essex Police.

The future brings the force more challenges, not least the 2012 Olympic Games.

As well as the county hosting the mountain bike events – at Hadleigh Farm – Essex is the gateway to the Olympic site at Stratford.

## New device helps officers combat ASB

FOR the first time, Essex officers have used an Alco-Blow device to help combat anti-social behaviour.

Operation Prescott, run in Castle Point during August and September, was the start of ten targeted operations under the Operation Impact banner, which are being funded by Essex County Council to help make Essex the safest county in the country.

Regular officers, backed up by their Special colleagues undertook patrols at key times at key locations in a bid to reduce anti-social behaviour.

District commander Chief Insp Keith Davies said he was grateful for the county council's support.

He explained that local residents were surveyed before and after the five-week operation to find out how they felt about the police, crime and anti-social behaviour.

"This will allow us to further prioritise police and local partnership activity in key areas of need to maintain the anti-social behaviour reduction initiative," said Chief Insp Davies.

Police and district council licensing and enforcement officers visited licensed premises in the key areas and young people suspected of under-age drinking had their breath tested with the Alco-Blow device.

Knife safety arches were deployed along with passive drug dogs, from the Dog Unit, and Ion Track drug testing equipment.

As a result, 103 on- and off-licensed premises were visited, 384 people were stop checked, there were 73 seizures of alcohol and seven of tobacco and 19 arrests, for offences ranging from arson and possession of an offensive weapon to being drunk and disorderly and possession of cannabis.

## Get up to date with Airwave

POLICE officers and PCSOs are being invited to a series of Airwave roadshows aimed at maximising their use of the radios.

Since Airwave was introduced in 2004, a number of enhancements have been made to the service and the sets themselves.

Now the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) and Airwave Solutions are hosting a series of drop-in sessions during October to enable Airwave-users the chance to refresh their skills and knowledge.

ACC Sue Harrison said: "Improved use of communications will provide a more effective and efficient service to the community that we serve."

"Senior managers are to ensure that all available officers attend."

• For a list of dates and venues, visit the Airwave Support intranet site – listed under Divisions & Departments – and scroll down to Airwave Roadshows

## Crimewatch features Abridge murder appeal

OFFICERS investigating the murder of a man from Abridge last year were pleased with the response from members of the public following an appeal on the BBC's Crimewatch.

Brentwood Major Investigation Team now has a number of new leads following information given.

A reconstruction and appeal in relation to the murder of Clive Enkel, 53 – who

was attacked at his home in Alderwood Drive on September 25, 2008 – was broadcast on the programme late last month.

Following the appeal, the show received 78 calls while another four were received by Essex Police. In addition, 17 text messages and two emails were received.

DI Anne Cameron said: "I am really

pleased with the response we have had. "I would still like to encourage people to phone us and give us any information you have as it may be crucial in helping us find the people responsible for this man's death."

• Call Essex Police with information on 0300 333 4444 ext 75229 or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111



• Ruby Barber with her parents Dee Goodwin and Pc Dan Barber

Picture courtesy of the Yellow Advertiser

## Little gem carries on policing tradition

999 was an auspicious birth day for Ruby Barber – both her father and grandfather are serving Essex police officers. Little Ruby was born at Southend University Hospital on Wednesday, September 9 (09/09/09), and proud parents Dee Goodwin and Pc Dan Barber were delighted with their new arrival.

Dan, 27, of Southend Central Neighbourhood Policing Team, has been a constable at Southend for four years. He said: "I am so pleased and proud, it has been a really great day. With both my Dad and me being serving police officers, my little girl could hardly have a more appropriate birthday – it's an incredible coincidence."

"I'd be happy for her to carry on the family tradition, but

really I'd be pleased whatever she does as long as she's happy."

Ruby had been due on September 11 but was lying in a breech position so doctors decided that, as she could not be turned, she should be born by Caesarean section, two days early.

Dan's father Paul is a traffic law instructor at Essex Police College. He became a grandfather twice in two days as Dan's sister Laura gave birth on Monday, September 7. 9.9.9 is known as a palindromic date – it reads the same, forwards and backwards – and to many numerologists the date has particular significance. It is associated with justice and truth.

# Crash reduction work: Minister is 'impressed'

**TRANSPORT Secretary Lord Adonis visited Essex to see for himself the work the force and the county council is doing to reduce casualties on our roads.**

And he also saw the work of the A12 Alliance patrols, launched last month in a ground-breaking partnership between the force and the council and which aims to reduce delays on Essex's busiest road.

Lord Adonis was briefed on Essex's overall casualty reduction strategy – implemented by the Essex Casualty Reduction Board (ECRB) in July 2007 – which has seen 339 serious fewer casualties occurring annually in the county, a fall of 34 per cent.

Afterwards, he said: "Essex is really taking a lead in driving down road acci-

dents and I am very impressed by their work.

"By bringing their individual efforts together, the partners have been able to have a much greater impact in making the roads safer for Essex residents and visitors.

"I am also impressed by the recently launched A12 patrols, which are doing good work to improve safety and reduce delays on one of Essex's busiest roads and I commend Essex Police and Essex County Council on their efforts."

ACC Derek Benson said: "The work that Essex Police has undertaken with our partners has led to a significant decrease in the number of people killed and seriously injured on the roads of Essex.

"The formation of the A12 Alliance patrols is another initiative to further reduce those figures and to improve the driving experience of those using the

A12," added Mr Benson.

The ECRB – a partnership involving the force and Essex County Council – has mounted hard-hitting publicity campaigns, stepped up intervention and enforcement and provided road safety advice to tens of thousands of people at events and in schools across the county.

Enforcement action has included the issue of 7,456 fixed penalty tickets, the seizure of 316 vehicles and 153 arrests, mostly relating to various motoring offences.

And last month, the A12 Alliance was formed with a county council grant of £1.5million, which funded a patrol unit consisting of 18 police officers based at Mobile Support Division in Boreham.

Since the patrols began, officers have dealt with hundreds of incidents, ranging from dealing with major accidents to helping motorists who have run out of petrol.

## Sharing and caring in Great Parndon

GREAT Parndon Residents' Association in Harlow has agreed to share its website with the Great Parndon Neighbourhood Action Panel.

It will provide locals with an extra channel of communication, with up-to-date news of current actions and concerns.

## Driving down crime in Thorpe Bay

POLICE in Thorpe Bay are actively engaging driving schools as part of a new Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

Driving School Watch, an extension of the neighbourhood action panel, encourages driving instructors to report suspicious activity to the police.

## Chief: job losses would only be 'a last resort'

CHIEF Constable Jim Barker-McCardle has responded to a local newspaper article which claims back-office police staff could face unemployment under the APEX and collaboration programmes.

Mr Barker-McCardle said that business cases for working more closely with neighbouring forces over a number of support functions would be carefully considered in the coming weeks and months.

"No decisions have been made concerning staffing and a full consultation process will be undertaken with staff associations before any decisions are made," he said.

"The top priority of any work undertaken will be to consider the advantages to the public we serve," he added.

Priority would be given to not filling some already vacant positions and to re-deploying police staff to fill other vacant positions to maintain our operational effectiveness.

He stressed that compulsory redundancies would be avoided as far as possible but may be necessary if back-office functions are merged, so that more officers can be put on to the streets of Essex.

## New updated college course for detectives

A NEW CID course for detective constables has been launched and officers are being encouraged to attend.

The Initial Crime Investigators Development Programme (ICIDP) has been rewritten – using new material to make it a more dynamic and relevant learning programme for potential CID officers – by the crime training team at Essex Police College and approved by the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA).

Other forces, including the Metropolitan Police and Kent, have requested copies of the course pack and teaching material to better inform their own ICIDP internal reviews.

Students will now take an exam on their first day, based on pre-reading the Core Investigation Doctrine, and on successful completion, undertake a four-week course at Essex Police College.

The course has been reduced by a week to and minimise distractions from divisions, which has also reduced its cost.

It is based on the investigation of a rape, from initial scene management through to presenting the results of the investigations to a panel of senior detectives.

This exercise directly links to the force's desire to improve its performance around rape investigations.

The ICIDP course will now be subject of a six-monthly review in order to ensure its validity and relevance

• Contact DI Stuart Hooper on ext 55292 for details



## Federation news by Roy Scanes



### National updates London and South East regional allowances

AT the Police Negotiating Board (PNB) meeting on July 23, the Police Federation accepted in principle the Government's offer to up rate the South East allowance by giving forces currently paying the South East allowance flexibility to pay up an increase of £1,000.

The criteria for payment would be based on recruitment and retention considerations.

The Government's offer will protect payments currently made to officers in receipt of the South East allowance.

Two further issues will also need to be addressed through the 'no detriment' provisions before an agreement can be finalised.

The first issue only concerns officers in those forces which currently pay £1,000 South East allowance – this doesn't include Essex.

The second issue relates to a situation where rent and housing allowance is payable per property with co-habiting officers sharing the total allowance between them.

The South East allowance is a personal allowance, so two South East allowances would frequently be in excess of a single rent or housing allowance.

The solution would be a 'no detriment' clause with forces paying an additional allowance to those in receipt of rent/ housing allowance to bring them up to the new levels of South East allowance.

The Police Federation wrote to the Government on July 30, setting out both issues. A response is still awaited.

### Difficult times ahead

We can see difficult times approaching on the horizon post-General Election.

If there is a change of government, it will bring with it the promise of directly-elected sheriffs to replace police authorities, a desire to abolish the PNB and replace it with a pay review body and a well-publicised reduction in public sector spending to name but a few of the challenges ahead of us.

The on-going review into Police pensions is due to report in 2011 and, while it's early days, it's unlikely to make happy reading.

There has been considerable media coverage recently regarding public sector pension schemes and their cost to the tax-payer.

We certainly anticipate an increase in the percentage of our pension contribution but, given the enthusiasm of a number of politicians to support comments made by the Confederation of British Industry (CBI), there has to be real concern for the future of our pension schemes.

And the future of the 30+ scheme also remains up in the air following a recommendation by the National Police Improvement Agency (NPIA) that the scheme should conclude next year.

The NPIA had arrived at this decision without consulting the Police Federation, ACPO or the Association of Chief Officers.

We have expressed concern at this recommendation and stated the need to maintain the scheme until at least the Olympic Games in 2012. It now seems it will be replaced with a new scheme called 30 Not Out.

Changes would only affect new members and not those already on the 30+ scheme.

Any changes will, of course, not be as attractive as the new scheme will have to cost less to run. Initial information suggests officers will be limited to a maximum of four years and will be treated as new recruits regarding allowances and annual leave.

### Pay

The second part of the three-year deal has now hit your pay packets – a rise of 2.6 per cent.

The Retail Price Index (RPI) rate of inflation was at -1.4 per cent, so, in real terms we have received a four per cent increase in wages over the RPI rate of inflation.

The third part of the deal is due to be implemented next September.

Both Conservatives and Labour have committed themselves to honouring the three-year deal in full.

We are still waiting to hear how the on-call allowance will be implemented.

## Unison news by Mike Frost



### "Cops on the cheap"

UNISON doesn't think so and we do think that police community support officers have the right to be referred to as PCSOs without exception, as opposed to any truncated form of address from any quarter!

Apart from simple good manners and respect for colleagues, the Dignity At Work policy covers this and Unison will support members who feel aggrieved.

As for the *Channel 4* Dispatches broadcast on September 21, Unison national officer Ben Priestley was interviewed for the programme. Championing the work of PCSOs, he highlighted the five-year campaign to get PCSO colleagues what they need to do the job the public expects of them.

Unison assisted the programme-makers by providing a link to a questionnaire for PCSO members nationwide.

Seventy-four per cent of respondents indicated they do not feel they have the powers they need to do their jobs properly.

If they have different powers in different forces, it's not surprising if the public are confused and relations with warranted colleagues can be strained. There need be no such issues in Essex, however.

Essex PCSOs are a big success and there is no evidence to the contrary.

The public like them and they have transformed Neighbourhood Policing, as well as freeing up their police colleagues to meet their own responsibilities.

ACC Jerry Kirkby – the ACPO lead on PCSOs – agrees and so does David Hanson, of the Home Office, who says: "PCSOs are a vital part of the policing family. I have seen and heard how they are valued by the public and police officers alike."

PCSOs work anti-social shifts, exposed to all weathers as well as to the less than savoury behaviours of some members of the public.

"Cops on the Cheap" – Unison doesn't think so – and neither do the majority of Essex police officers who are supported by them!

● See Letters on Page 9

### Sharing our services

Essex and Kent – sharing our services, read the intranet front page.

At the same time, the Chief Constable's Blog highlighted just how busy he has been in his

first three weeks.

With roadshows throughout the county and meetings with various senior colleagues to discuss the future of working together, Jim Barker-McCardle has set about his new role with enthusiasm and vigour.

"In the next few weeks we will have to confirm with the Essex Police Authority exactly where the future of collaboration rests and have some very clear plans," he writes in his blog.

He also undertakes to "make sure that these plans and the reasons behind them are well communicated within Essex Police".

One such communication announces the intention to "explore the business benefits" of creating a shared specialist crime command and shared support services in areas such as HR and training, finance, transport and property services.

Also under "positive consideration" is a "shared IT department under a joint director of Information Technology", who could well be at Chief Officer level and perhaps work from Kent?

Mr Barker-McCardle says "no decisions have been made concerning staffing" and that "detailed consultations will be undertaken with staff associations".

And he makes the point at his roadshows that some of his decisions "may not be popular".

Unison is the police staff negotiation body. We will be actively and positively engaged in all such "consultations", as the intentions of Mr Barker-McCardle and the police authority become clear and as decisions are made about the future of the force and its employees.

We will proactively and positively represent the interests of every member of Essex police staff, whether they are members or not.

However, colleagues should understand that we can only represent the personal concerns of our fast growing membership.

If you find your own job 'at risk' and you are not a member, Unison will not be able to help you as an individual.

If you are contemplating Unison membership and participating in the many benefits available, all you need do is contact your local steward, look on the force intranet or, better still, visit our website at [www.essexpoliceunison.org](http://www.essexpoliceunison.org)



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## Corner the chairman



● **Essex Police Authority chairman**  
**Robert Chambers**

### Chief setting out his vision for our force

“IT has been more than a month since our new Chief Constable, Jim Barker-McCardle, joined Essex Police. It is obvious that he has settled into the Essex Police family extremely well.

I accompanied him to the many roadshows he attended during that time. Mr Barker-McCardle wanted to listen to people who work for Essex Police, and these roadshows have proved the perfect way to do so.

The roadshows took place throughout the county and Mr Barker-McCardle has met more than 700 police officers and staff, introducing himself and answering a number of interesting questions. One question that I found particularly interesting was ‘If you were not a police officer what would you like to be?’ to which he answered ‘Either an adventurer or a farmer’. These roadshows will prove extremely beneficial to the force as many police officers and staff have now had the opportunity to interact with our new leader and find out what his vision is.

I am also finding the Chief’s Blog on the intranet useful and interesting. I am sure Mr Barker-McCardle’s fantastic start is a sign of further good things to come and I am looking forward to working with him in the future to continue to make Essex Police the best police force in the country.”

# Making a difference

A PITSEA officer will complete the Brentwood Blood Bank TEN challenge this month when he donates his tenth set of platelets in as many months.

Pc Nick Smith donates blood platelets regularly and classes himself as ‘one of the lucky ones’ as his platelet count is so high he can donate up to three times in one go.

After he completes the challenge this month, he will have made the equivalent of more than 30 donations.

Nick was motivated to donate after his uncle died of a rare form of leukaemia – sufferers rely on donated platelets as part of their treatment.

Nick said: “I have my personal reasons for starting the donations and get a real buzz thinking that I could be helping people.

“Completing the challenge is a great personal achievement for me.

“I found out I was on the donor list for the paediatric unit and that has motivated me to keep doing it – knowing that young children and babies are being saved as a result of donations.”

Most platelet donations are given to patients whose bone marrow is unable to make enough platelets, eg cancer patients may have too few platelets as the result of their disease or treatment.

Patients may also need platelet transfusions after some major surgery or extensive injury, to replace those lost through bleeding.

Nick discovered recently that platelets are shipped from Brentwood via RAF Brize Norton to Afghanistan and Iraq for Armed Forces’ use.

He is keen to get more people donating for, unlike blood donations, platelets can only be stored for a few days so regular and frequent donors are in great demand.

“A single donation can give as many as 12 babies a dose of platelets, which is well worth doing,” he said.

● To find out more about donating blood, platelets and bone marrow, visit [www.giveblood.co.uk](http://www.giveblood.co.uk) Type in your postcode to find blood donation sessions near you



● **Neighbourhood specialist officer Pc Nick Smith is keen to encourage others to donate blood platelets**

Picture by Laura Anderson

# Visits are reducing the fear of crime

by Laura Anderson

## VICTIMS of crime in Basildon are getting a better deal, thanks to a new initiative.

Operation Fearless has been set up to make victims feel safer and supported after suffering the effects of crime.

Officers from neighbourhood policing teams (NPTs) identify key victims of crime and arrange to visit them two months after the incident.

During these visits, they ensure that the victims have been updated about the investigation and check whether they are satisfied with the outcome.

Acting Insp Scott Cannon, the brains behind the scheme, said: “We visit them two months after they become a victim so they do not feel forgotten about.

“When a crime initially happens, there is a lot for the victim to take in and they may not realise what support they need until a few months later, when they try to get some normality back into their lives.”

The victim is given contact details for their local NPT and any partner agencies they could benefit from contacting. If they express an interest in a particular agency, the officer makes note of this and makes a partnership referral to ensure the correct support is given.

Operation Fearless also measures how much safer residents feel after the visits. Once support and guidance has been given, officers ask the victim if their fear of crime has reduced.

It is this aspect that is key to the victim/police relationship. Acting Insp Cannon explains: “Once you become a victim of crime, your sense of safety usually diminishes, which is an awful way to live. Knowing that the police are supporting you can go some way to making you feel safe again.

“We also provide a true reflection of crime to the victims so they know that, having been a victim, their perception of crime is not a reflection of true crime figures.

“Basildon is a relatively safe place to live and we don’t want criminals making residents feel like prisoners in their own homes.”

Operation Fearless was piloted in Basildon wards in April and enjoyed some initial success, with more than 300 visits carried out.

More than one-third of all victims said the support and advice from officers had reduced their fear of crime.

Since the success in Basildon itself, Operation Fearless has been rolled out across the whole of the Basildon district.

Officers also advise victims of ways that they can actively help fight crime in their area through Neighbourhood Watch schemes, KINs – key members who represent the community at meetings such as neighbourhood action panels – and by joining Essex Police Special Constabulary.

Acting Insp Cannon says: “Victims usually do not want to feel victimised and the experience sometimes makes them want to contribute actively to reduce and tackle crime, so we advise them on how they can play such a role.”

Thanks to the visits, 69 people have expressed interest in signing up to Neighbourhood Watch already.



● **Acting Insp Scott Cannon and PCSO Paul Hogben talking to Laidon resident Jean Cleland**

Picture by Laura Anderson

On a district level, 861 visits were carried out between May and August and 25 per cent of people visited said they felt safer as a result.

It is hoped that the initiative will indirectly help to reduce crime, as victims and vulnerable people identified through the visits are given crime prevention advice to reduce their chances of becoming a repeat victim and tips on being more vigilant around their own neighbourhood.

Acting Insp Cannon is so enthusiastic about the scheme’s potential that he is already thinking of expanding it.

“I am looking at developing Fearless to incorporate the key partnership agencies, instead of officers referring victims to them.

“By having this joined up approach, we can give victims the best service and, if we manage to make just one victim feel permanently safe again, then we have done our job.”

Acting Insp Cannon also developed the 3VP scheme – vulnerable persons, property and premises – where police officers and PCSOs issue crime prevention advice to people whose cars and homes or offices are found to be insecure and therefore could be a potential target for criminals.

## New packs to discourage burglaries

MORE than 8,800 crime reduction packs have been distributed to ‘vulnerable’ residents throughout Essex in a bid to reduce burglary.

The Home Office Secure Your Home packs include valuable crime reduction information and handy discount vouchers which can be used in local stores to buy security goods to protect a home.

The packs will be distributed by crime reduction officers in localised campaigns to homes identified as vulnerable; they will give useful ideas and practical tools to get the right security messages across.

Most burglaries are carried out by opportunist thieves. Nationally, three in ten burglars get in through an open door or window, or through uPVC doors which have not been double-locked. An added bonus is finding keys to expensive vehicles left in obvious places.

Leading the burglary awareness campaign is crime reduction sergeant Nathalie Carr. She said: “Burglary is a national issue but some cases could have been avoided.

“The Secure Your Home packs give people the tools necessary to protect their homes at reasonable prices.

“The force is taking action against burglary by raising awareness and placing the power back into people’s hands.”

## Taking heart

FOUR officers from Basildon and Thurrock cycled 59 miles from London to Southend to raise money for the British Heart Foundation.

Pcs Charlotte Morgan, Josh Anderson and Lisa Cooke joined scenes of crime officer, Dc Jeremy Spencer to raise £300.

Unfortunately, Dc Spencer fell off his bike during the first stage of the ride but he said: “I have lots of bruises and grazes as a souvenir of our journey. Despite my trauma, it was still great to raise money for charity.”

## Museum news

A NEW exhibition has been unveiled at the Essex Police Museum about The Great War.

The exhibition – The Great War: Home Life and Service during 1914-18 – runs until November 7.

It features stories of local policemen including Insp Arthur Morrison, who has been credited with making the phone call to warn of the first Zeppelin raid over London.

It also looks at the role of women in wartime and tells stories of those who enlisted and fought in the trenches.



# Christmas stocking-fillers

The Essex Police Museum has a range of gifts to fill your Christmas stockings – for children and adults



Children's handcuffs £2



Crime scene tape £1.50



Essex Police Museum tie-pin £3



Pewter handcuffs thimble £2



Pewter handcuffs keyring £1



Policeman fridge magnet £1

All items can be purchased directly from Essex Police Museum at Essex Police HQ or order by post, telephone or email. Cheques should be made payable to Essex Police Museum and sent to: The Curator, Essex Police Museum, PO Box 2, Essex Police HQ, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6DA telephone 01245 457150 email [museum@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:museum@essex.pnn.police.uk)

Essex Police Museum is open every Wednesday from 1pm to 4.30pm and on the first Saturday of each month from 10.30am to 3pm

# Letters of appreciation

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

TO Chief Supt Tim Newcomb: I am writing to commend Pc Dave Hirst and Pc Tom Walker for their professionalism and sense of public service.

An 80-year-old woman walked in to our offices, confused and distressed. She said she could not return to her home – which she said had been smashed up – and had been sleeping rough.

We spent two hours on the telephone trying to persuade social services that she should receive immediate attention and assistance.

In desperation we called the police. Pc Hirst and Pc Walker responded and did a magnificent job. They summoned a paramedic to ensure she was physically okay.

They then did some marvellous investigative work and eventually located a family member who agreed to collect her, albeit somewhat reluctantly.

My colleagues and I felt that the level of service offered by these officers was exemplary and very much worthy of praise.

**Advice service manager  
Age Concern Colchester**

TO Chief Insp Glen Westley: I had the unfortunate experience of colliding with a young cyclist.

The child was badly grazed and quite shaken. A young man appeared and asked if I needed any help, introducing himself as Pc Craig Pledger, an off-duty police officer based at Southend.

I didn't know what procedures I needed to take and he advised me what he thought I should do. I didn't have a phone so he kindly rang the traffic police and waited with me until they arrived. He was a nice young man and a real calming influence on me after the collision.

Please pass on my sincere thanks for helping at what was a really difficult time. His presence and actions showed maturity which was a credit to both him and your force.

**MC  
Danbury**

TO Pc Andy Bullock: WE wanted to write to thank you for all your help recently in finding my mother who went missing in Southend.

She was eventually picked up by police in Brentwood after a member of the public reported seeing her in the early hours.

She had somehow managed to get on to a bus in Southend and get herself to Shenfield. What she was doing for the 12 hours or so she was missing I guess we will never know but when she was reunited with us she was in remarkable good spirits and seemed to have quite enjoyed her adventure. We will now be taking measures to make finding her easier should this happen again.

I only briefly met you that evening but my father tells me you spent the entire afternoon driving him round in a police car trying to find my mother and could not have been more helpful and considerate.

Later, in the early hours, we were greatly helped by Pc Katy Major and I have written to thank her too.

Most of us have little contact with the police in our everyday lives and, unfortunately, it is all too often the negative side of policing we get to hear about through the media.

So it is very reassuring to know when we do need their services they are as professional, understanding and caring as you and Pc Major. You are both a credit to the force and we would be very proud if our son, who at 15 is in the Havering Police Cadets and hopes to join the force, achieves your high standards.

**RC  
Romford**

I WANT to send my sincere thanks and appreciation to Essex Police and all its officers.

When I have needed the assistance of the police force they have been nothing but professional – even when a call might have seemed trivial to them they have dealt with everything faultlessly.

I just think that at a time when the media are trying to paint the force in a bad light, it is important you hear from a very grateful and appreciative local. Many thanks.

**MC  
via the Essex Police website**

TO the Chief Constable: I would like to thank the officers at Great Yeldham police station – Pc Neil Baker and Pc Martin Van – for their speed of response, courtesy and competence when they came out to a road traffic collision in Stambourne.

A vehicle being driven too fast hit our driveway gates. I would like to thank you for the service you provide in this quiet country area.

**RD  
Stambourne**

THE East of England Ambulance Service was called to a patient in London Road, Leigh on Sea, who had suffered a cardiac arrest.

A paramedic in a rapid response car arrived promptly and, while awaiting the ambulance crew, was assisted in giving cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) by Pc Tom Olley.

This enabled the paramedic to initiate advanced life support. I am writing on behalf of the paramedic to say how much his assistance was appreciated.

Pc Olley's CPR was effective and he was very helpful in general.

**Duty operation manager  
South Essex Division  
East of England Ambulance  
Service NHS Trust**

TO Pc Tom Olley: I was given your name by my uncle's solicitor as the officer who aided my uncle following his collapse as he was boarding a bus.

I am one of his nieces. Sadly, my uncle later passed away but I want to give a heart-felt thank you for helping him at his time of greatest need.

I know you may feel this is 'just your job' but for families of people who have been hurt, injured or who have died, you and your colleagues do a wonderful job.

You all have loved ones and

the same emotions as the public, yet you have to constantly face sad and distressing sights and circumstances on a regular basis.

I can never repay your kindness but it is great comfort to know that you were there to help when we could not – and it is very important that you know how much we appreciate all you did.

I don't know if you believe in angels but I do and that day, to me, you were one of them.

**JD  
Tasmania  
Australia**

I HAVE just got to thank every one so much for a fantastic day out at the Essex Police Museum family fun day.

Everyone must have worked so hard to put this on. It was wonderful to see the dogs and handlers enjoying their work so much.

We are so lucky to have them.

**DC  
Saffron Walden**

I ATTENDED the Essex Police Museum family fun day and I must say the whole day seemed a complete success.

I certainly know from my visit to the museum that it was an extremely popular event which was very informative and interesting.

**RM  
London**

TO Ian Debbage: Thank you very much for your email and for faxing the letter to the insurance company.

Hopefully this letter will do the trick and we'll get at least some money to put towards another car.

I can't thank you enough for your help with this matter. You have been very kind and patient when I'm sure, like the rest of the world, your in-tray is overflowing and you just need to move on to the next item.

**LK  
Geneva**

COGGESHALL Carnival Association would like to say how much we appreciated the help and effort given to us on carnival day by PCSO Graham Heseltine.

Most people do not realise how much work is involved in staging a carnival and fete.

We should like you thank PCSO Heseltine and the other officers involved – Sc Simon Culling, PCSO Danny Spence, Pc Jerry White, Sc Arlen Francke and SSgt Jo Van Zanten.

**Coggeshall Carnival Association**

I WOULD like to commend Pc Gareth Hennessy, of Halstead police station, for the professional and efficient manner in which he responded and attended to my complaint about malicious damage to my vehicle.

I realise malicious petty crime is difficult to detect but this did not deter him and he made the necessary enquiries speedily and professionally.

His continued follow-up and keeping me informed of the progress and result is greatly appreciated.

As an ex-police officer, I would like to record my appreciation of the manner in which my complaint was handled.

**RR  
Castle Hedingham**

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: [nscsw@icsmail.co.uk](mailto:nscsw@icsmail.co.uk)



**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.

Do you know of painting?

I HAVE been contacted by retired Pc Joe Kreyling, formerly of Southend on Sea County Borough Constabulary, who was stationed at Eastwood police station from the day it opened in the early 1970s.

A constable – name unknown – did a painting of the opening, which was given to Pc Kreyling. He left it at the station but would now like to donate it to the museum.

The painting featured a dinosaur coming over a mountain and looking over to land where the police station was to be built. Pc Kreyling is in the painting too.

I would be very interested to hear from anyone who remembers the painting or its whereabouts. Please contact me on 01245 457150 or via email at [museum@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:museum@essex.pnn.police.uk)

**Becky Wash**  
 Essex Police Museum curator

Nomination appreciation

I WOULD like to say how grateful I was to be named Essex Community Police Officer Of The Year at last month's force annual awards.

But I would like to point out that any achievements I have managed to gain are as a result of working as part of Colchester Town Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Policing is a team effort – we are no good on our own – and I'd like to thank my colleagues for all their help and support.

I accepted my nomination on behalf of the entire team.

**Pc David Underwood**  
 Colchester Town NPT

Photo thanks

I WOULD like to thank those readers who identified the players in the Essex Police football team photograph taken in the 1960s (Down Memory Lane, *The Law*, July and September 2009).

I can now put the names on the back of the original photo and put it in the album with the rest of my late husband Bob's football career at Colchester, his Army regiment, Sudbury and Essex Police.

If it hadn't been for the Down Memory Lane column in *The Law*, I would never have known.

**Miriam Hyde**  
 Rayleigh

NARPO invite

THE National Association of Retired Police Officers (NARPO) and the Southend Borough's annual White Helmet reunion is to be held on Friday, December 11, 2009, from midday at Southend police station bar.

A ploughman's lunch will be provided. Please notify bar manager Pam Johnson of your lunch requirements by ringing her on 0300 333 4444 ext 30915 or by contacting me on 01702 545934 or via e-mail at [peteryorke-wade@sky.com](mailto:peteryorke-wade@sky.com)

**Peter Yorke-Wade**  
 NARPO Southend branch secretary

## 'We PCSOs are part of the Essex Police team'

**I AM writing in response to the letter Blurring lines is just not on! in last month's issue of *The Law*.**

I can't help but feel that PCSOs are still being given negative feedback within the force.

I understand we are not sworn officers but we do a lot of work to help 'coppers' catch and arrest people.

Recently, I chased two people, both of whom were caught and arrested. One was wanted for a theft.

The next day, I came across a man was behaving aggressively in the High Street. I got units to the location more quickly than if someone had called through and, before it got out of hand,

the man was arrested on suspicion of causing actual bodily harm to a 14-year-old boy.

Obviously, it's not just me who does some very good work – all of my fellow PCSOs across the division will have similar success stories.

We are told that we need to carry out initiatives in the local community – it depends on the time of year as to what they involve.

These include beat surgeries or the less informal Cuppa with a Copper.

When local communities want to see a 'copper' walking the street or if there aren't any units available and if it's not too serious, who gets sent to see them? PCSOs.

We are, whether police officers like it or not, the 'eyes and ears of the police'. We

are the ones who get the intelligence from our community because we are the ones who are face-to-face with them every day of our shift.

I understand that the 'nicknames' are for regular officers but if regular officers aren't seen as often as PCSOs – and bear in mind, of course, that the P stands for Police – most youngsters do call us police officers or copper, sometimes with derogatory remarks in front of them.

The dispute as to whether we should be employed or not is neither here nor there, the fact is we are Essex Police, we are a team and, if we all work as a team, then we should be able to be the best force in the country.

**PCSO Dean Chesterman**  
 Vange NPT

## PCSOs play an important role

I WRITE in response to the article that appeared in the August issue of *The Law* regarding the Bobby in the Lobby initiative (August 2009) and the apparent disappointment of Pc Mick West, of Essex Police Federation, in his letter last month, titled Blurring lines is just not on!

PCSOs are an important part of the Essex policing family and I can confirm that PCSOs have indeed been used as part of the Bobby in the Lobby and Cuppa with a Copper campaigns.

I was surprised to read on last month's Letters Page that their use in these great initiatives is seen as blurring the lines between police officers and PCSOs.

The PCSOs and police officers who

form part of the neighbourhood policing teams (NPTs) within South Western Division work really hard, as part of a team, to ensure we give best service to our public.

These two initiatives have been undertaken by regular officers, Specials and PCSOs and the feedback I have received from the public and sworn officers has been very positive – it is clear that the public are more than happy to engage with PCSOs.

I am sure that anyone who has seen these initiatives in action will form the same view.

The policing family within South Western Division is one of which we are proud and, from conversations I have

had with police officers within the NPTs, they certainly do not feel devalued by their PCSO colleagues undertaking these duties.

The PCSOs carry out some fantastic work, as was evidenced and recognised at last month's Essex Police Annual Awards night, and we need to encourage a team ethos, ensuring all of our staff are valued, rather than seek to put hurdles in the way.

In order to see how successful these initiatives have been, I would urge anyone in doubt to come along and see for themselves.

**Chief Supt Jed Stopher**  
 Temporary South Western divisional commander



● The Cystic Fibrosis Trust stall at the Essex Police Museum Family Fun Day, back from left, Chloe Royce, Karen Royce, Karen Pryke, Julie Passfield and Aimie Pryke with Pc Elaine Michaels, of Stanway Dog Section, and police dog Taz

I WOULD like to say a big thank you to the Essex Police Dog Unit for again inviting us – on behalf of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust – to sell refreshments at Essex Police Museum Family Fun day on September 20.

**Phil Passfield**  
 West Mersea

## Down Memory Lane ...

THANKS to our readers, we now have plenty of information about the photograph published in the July issue of *The Law* of Sgt Bert Turner and a team of officers picking up a new fleet of cars.

His wife Dee – who sent in the photo – thought the cars were being picked up from Chelmsford and taken back to Colchester but Pc Martin Spensley, of Laindon Dog Section, was one of several who wrote in to say the picture was actually taken in the rear yard of South Ockendon police station.

"I can remember going to see the new cars with my father, ex-sergeant Peter Spensley, who could be the last man in the photograph nearly out of shot," said Pc Spensley.

Former constable Paul Wilgress wrote to say the Ford Anglias had been collected from HQ and driven in convoy to Ockendon for use in the new 'panda' car system for Grays Division.

He identifies himself as the officer with a beard in the photograph – the last in the shot – with Sgt Turner being the sergeant nearest to the camera, next to him is Pc Derek Lee and he thinks the next officer is Pc Colin (or Dave) Ross.

He recalls that light blue personal radios had been issued, in two parts – one was the transmitter with a pop-up aerial and the other was the receiver.

Ockendon was Mr Wilgress's first posting after training at Eynsham Hall in Oxfordshire in 1966. He moved to the detached beat at Hullbridge in 1969 and stayed there until retirement in 1995.

Roger Coleman was a young probationer under the guidance of Sgt Turner in Colchester from very early 1970.

He recalls Sgt Turner riding a very small child's pedal cycle in a circuit around the offices and back yard of Colchester police station, wearing a very large police helmet.

He said: "At one point Sgt Turner did not reappear once he had rounded the far end of the yard. A few minutes later Chief Supt Deighton appeared at my desk and examined the occurrence book.

"He didn't utter a word but when he reached his office he instructed me by telephone to get Sgt Turner up to his office without delay. I think Bert had ridden into him just as he had parked his car and started to walk to the back door."

Once, while on duty, Sgt Turner offered the young Pc Coleman a sugary sweet and rolled around with laughter when he ate it.

"He had earlier spotted the sweet on the ground somewhere around St Botolph's and had skilfully kicked it all the way up to Bank passage where he decided I would appreciate it," said Mr Coleman.

John Wooffitt was stationed at South Ockendon at the time the picture was taken, just before the implementation of Unit Beat Policing. He says Sgt Turner was section sergeant at Aveley.

He said: "Unit Beat Policing was one of the biggest revolutions in policing which took place nationwide following a large injection of Government money to buy vehicles and radios for most officers on duty, as well as other equipment.

"It was a great boost for morale and gave the public greater service as, until then, we walked or rode bicycles, had no personal radios and waited by various scheduled public telephone boxes every 45 minutes as a point of contact."

The Ford Anglias were destined for Grays Division. Mr Wooffitt identifies Sgt Turner, on the right of the photograph, next to him is Pc Derek Lee. Next but one may be Pc Dave 'Dick' Richards and next to him is Pc David 'Chalkie' White, who now lives in South Africa.

Can anyone tell us about car accident?

MY family were involved in an accident on February 28, 1963, on or near the Nevendon Crossroads on the A127.

We were travelling in a red Mini, which my father was driving when he pulled out on to the A127 and we were hit by a car – we believe this may have been a Ford Zodiac or Zephyr with two men in it.

There were no fatalities but serious injuries were caused to some of us.

Travelling in our car were my father, Charles Smith, my mother Cathleen was in the passenger seat with my sister Mandy, aged two, on her lap.

In the back were my two sisters, Brenda and Vivienne, and me. We were aged between 11 and 14.

My sister Brenda had glass embedded in her head from the collision.

We were taken to St Andrew's Hospital at Billericay. Our family were from Clapham in London.

Contact from anyone who attended this accident would be welcomed by the family as we have no recollection of it.

My father is no longer alive and my mother suffers from dementia – previously they did not like to discuss the accident.

I can be contacted on 01753 889438 or via email at [chalkycopper@googlemail.com](mailto:chalkycopper@googlemail.com)

**Charles Smith**  
 Gerrards Cross  
 Buckinghamshire

**Holiday lets**

**GITE** in northern France, just three hours drive from Essex. Especially for families and couples who want to escape to peace and tranquility in rural France. Ring 01375 483045 or visit [www.le-petit-hameau.com](http://www.le-petit-hameau.com)

**FLORIDA**, Disney, four-bedroom villa, three bathrooms. Private pool, air conditioning, cable TVs, DVD, CD, PlayStation, games room. Golf five mins, Disney 15 mins. Ring Karen or Chris McAulay on 01625 431373 or 07881 614045, or email [mcaulay60@hotmail.com](mailto:mcaulay60@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](http://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. For information contact Mary on 01245 465690, 07971 482022 or [maryjane66@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:maryjane66@hotmail.co.uk)

**FLORIDA** villa, sleeps six, 15 minutes from Disney, own pool with free electric heat. Backs on to woods, secluded location, WiFi. Visit [hardysfloridavilla.co.uk](http://hardysfloridavilla.co.uk)

**FRANCE** Le Pas, converted stone bread oven with beams and woodburner, sleeps tow/ four. Five hours from Calais, £175/wk call Emma 07711 421579 or email [matt.smith1973@btinternet.com](mailto:matt.smith1973@btinternet.com)

**LANZAROTE**, Costa Teguisse. New two twin-bed, one-bath apartment. Kitchen, large dining room/lounge, large terrace. Ring Karen or Chris McAulay on 01625 431373 or 07881 614045 or visit [www.lanzarotesun.net](http://www.lanzarotesun.net)

**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](http://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](http://www.villapasatiempo.com) or email [taylors@villapasatiempo.com](mailto: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](http://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 at [d.price@mapri.co.uk](mailto:d.price@mapri.co.uk) or 07969 744427 quoting POL1.

**THAILAND**, Maenam, Koh Samui. Luxury villa, private pool. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, sleeps six. For details and bookings visit [www.holidaylettings.co.uk/65354](http://www.holidaylettings.co.uk/65354)

**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. Private parking. Winter breaks available. Close to quayside, shops and beautiful sandy beach. Visit [www.norfolkdreams.com](http://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](http://www.spearmanphotography.co.uk) telephone 07766 970771 or email [barrie.w-m@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.specialdaycarhire.co.uk) email [info@specialdaycarhire.co.uk](mailto:info@specialdaycarhire.co.uk) or contact Dave or Sally Swann on 01277 364626.

**Home for rent**

**FOR** rent, Springfield, three-bed, end terrace, open-plan lounge/diner, conservatory, garden, garage, allocated parking space. Available now, £850pcm excl Council Tax and utility bills. Contact Sarah on 07963 252741.

**For sale & wanted**

**FOCUS** 1.8 Zetec 2003 reg, 54,000 miles, silver, excellent condition, air-con, CD, heated windscreen, full service history, new brakes, tax and MoT until July 2010. £3,195 ono. Ring Samantha Weeks on 01621 840575.

**WANTED** black leather belt holder/pouch for mini Maglite (two-cell penlight battery). No reasonable price refused. Contact Ken Elliott on 07947 343930.

# MBE Watch manager loses her cancer battle

**CASTLE Point Neighbourhood Watch administrator Maria Georgiou has lost her fight against cancer.**

She died on September 29 at Southend University Hospital.

Maria received an MBE in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours List for her services to Neighbourhood Watch.

Due to her illness, the formal presentation was brought forward and Maria proudly received her MBE from the Queen's representative in Essex, the Lord Lieutenant, Lord Petre, at a ceremony in August, which was attended by more than 250 people.

In addition to her Watch work, Maria worked tirelessly for numerous charities, donating wages from extra part-time jobs.

**Retirements**

Sergeant **John Scott**, 52, retires from the force after 30 years' service this month. He spent his career on Eastern Division, finishing on Walton Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Project support manager **Dave King**, 65, retired last month, after serving the force for almost 46 years. As a police officer, Dave served for 31 years in uniform and CID at Billericay, Colchester, Saffron Walden, Leigh on Sea, Southend, Basildon, Laindon and at HQ.

He then spent 14 years as a member of police staff in Corporate Development's Business Development Unit.

**Obituary**

Former sergeant **Charles Wood**, of Hullbridge, has died, aged 88. He leaves a widow, Catherine.

Mr Wood served Essex Police from 1946 to 1976 at Grays, on Traffic and at HQ Driving School where he was an instructor.

Donations may be made in his memory to Help for Heroes and sent c/o A R Adams funeral directors, 117 High Street, Rayleigh SS6 7QA.

**Awards**

The following police officers and police staff at Essex Police College have attained their Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning

Sector (PTLLS) awards or their Certificate to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (CTLTS).

These are qualifications which all teachers must gain before they can teach in schools – they are internally verified before being awarded by City and Guilds.

PTLLS awards have been gained by leadership and development trainer Rachel Evans, crime trainer **Mark Anness** and Initial Police Learning Development Programme (IPLDP) trainers Pi **Jenny Bailey**, **Fraser Carroll**, Pi **Timothy Davis**, **Nichola Hurley**, Pi **Darren Pinchback**, PCSO **Jason Poole**, Pi **Louise Taplin**, **Sharon Walker** and **Natalie Watkins**.

CTLTS Level 4 awards have been achieved by IPLDP trainers Pi **Aidan Brick**, PCSO **Jason Poole** and **Natalie Watkins**.

Operation APEX management accountant **Keith Ellis** has received a Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) qualification from Anglia Ruskin University.



● Chief Constable **Jim Barker-McCardle** with the latest officers to receive Chief Constable's Commendations

Picture by Chris Morgan

AT his first commendation ceremony, Chief Constable Jim Barker-McCardle has commended nine police officers for their efforts in saving lives.

Sgt Steven Scott-Haynes and Pi Peter Gartland, from Colchester, and Pcs Alex Nellist, from Clacton, Mark Dundon, of Tiptree Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT), Hayley Debbage, of Christchurch Newtown NPT, and Jeff Wainman, of Copford NPT, were all presented with their commendations last month for the part they played in evacuating a blazing block of flats.

The officers were praised for their courage and initiative during the fire in Colchester last November.

Believing that people were trapped inside the burning building, each officer repeatedly entered it and, despite thick smoke and poor visibility, guided people to safety.

As a result of their actions, everyone was safely evacuated.

Also commended were Sgt Daniel Barnes, from Southend, Pi Leon Pezzuolo, from Chalkwell Marine NPT, and Dc James Rafiq, from Laindon, for their professionalism and timely response at the scene of a stabbing in Southend on August 17, 2007.

The trio reacted quickly when they were called out to reports of a stabbing and found a man who had been stabbed several times in his stomach and chest.

The victim was losing large amounts of blood and the officers had to act quickly. They remained calm and kept him alive until the paramedics arrived.

And, because of their actions, the man later made a good recovery in hospital.

ESSEX Police motorcyclists and the Air Support Unit played their part in the tenth Essex Air Ambulance motorcycle run from Ford at Dunton to Harwich.

But one officer went beyond the call of duty. The officers from Mobile Support Division always help to police the 4,000 riders taking part and ensure their journey is a safe one.

Afterwards, at a family fun day, in Harwich, the officers – together with Essex Fire and Rescue Service, East of England Ambulance Service and Essex County Council – helped to spread motorcycling safety messages.

Sgt Mick Green, of Chelmsford Road Policing Unit, said: "This is the first time that all four organisations have joined together working in partnership at a motorcycle event and it worked really well."

Organisers held a light-hearted Mr and Miss Bike Run competition. However, one of the male competitors failed to show and at the last minute Pc Nick Galpin – who was on duty at the event – was, as he describes it, "volunteered to take part by Sgt Green" and won.

In his defence, Sgt Green said: "Nick's participation in this event was excellent, it showed that not only were we policing the event, we were prepared to join in with the community and it helped to lower some of the barriers between motorcyclists and the police that some riders still believe exist."

"The motorcycle run passed without incident, due in part to the police motorcyclists involved."



● Pc Nick Galpin collects his trophy

**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.

# Cricketers win their first national final

**ESSEX have won their first PSUK cricket final since the competition started in 1975.**

Opponents Dyfed-Powys had four British Police players and were big favourites, having not lost for four years – compared with the match in Scarborough being Essex's first appearance in a final.

Dyfed-Powys won the toss and skipper, ex-Glamorgan player Mark Davies, decided to bat. They got off to a flier before an amazing catch by Chris Roper got rid of dangerous opener Philips. Williams, who has captained Wales, came to the crease on the back of a British Police ton earlier in the season but was soon dismissed by Ady Garnham. British Police wicket-keeper Evans held the innings together but tight bowling and superb fielding kept Essex in the game.

Luke Gamman bowled superbly, taking four wickets. He was supported by Dave Roberts, who made the most of the new ball. Spinners Keith Sargeant and Roper bowled tightly in tandem, with Roper picking up two wickets, including Evans, which was vital.

More brilliant fielding followed and Essex wicket-keeper Andy Blunt stole the show. Following a catch standing up, he then produced a run-out and a late-stumping. Tight bowling from Dave Jackson and Garnham restricted Dyfed-Powys to a total of 181.

The experienced Jon Butcher and Jackson then set about the Welsh target in positive fashion. Butcher played expansively to take the total over 40 but he and his fellow opener were dismissed in quick succession, leaving Essex in trouble.

Veteran Paul Gamman and Dave



Newman began to repair the damage by accumulating important runs. After playing cautiously early on, both played some magical shots, putting the bowlers to the sword.

Newman was particularly brutal, hitting four sixes on his way to a man-of-the-match 60 not out. Gamman was dismissed for 45 in arguably his best innings in more than 37 years of representing Essex – and his first win in a final. It was fittingly left to his son, Luke, to smash the winning runs with nine overs left.

● CENTRAL Division were victorious in the Twenty20 extravaganza which was this year's Croker Cup cricket competition.

Only four divisions contested the event – Central, South Eastern, South Western and Western – playing each other on a league basis.

South Western beat Western by seven

wickets thanks to 30 not out from Dave Newman.

Central beat South Eastern by six wickets with Lee Parish making 31. South Eastern beat South Western with Chris Hawes hitting the winning four in the last over.

Central beat Western by 16 runs – Nigel Cockrell made 42.

Western left early, so South Eastern picked up the points for a win, so it all rested on the last match between Central and South Western.

Central batted first and made 187 – Jackson and Cockrell both reaching their half centuries. South Western gave it their best shot but finished 18 runs short, with Darren Barnard also making 50.

Player of the tournament was Cockrell whose 102 runs included 11 sixes and numerous lost balls.

## Gents of CID finish season on a high

AS the season was drawing to a successful conclusion for the Gents of Essex CID Cricket Club, they visited Stock CC.

On a pitch which provided lots of opportunity for the bowlers, the Gents batted first and began strongly.

Chris Sutherby continued a good season by pushing on to a fine 93 before departing to a skied catch to mid-wicket.

At the other end after the quick loss of French, Couchman came to the crease and hit a Gower-esque 77 with flowing shots all over the ground.

Towards the end both Callaghan – 34 off 16 balls – and Griffiths – 28 off eight – got the Gents to a season-high score of 269-5.

Taking to the field and mindful of approaching rain, the Gents had an early breakthrough when Parish struck early.

When the second-wicket partnership of Stock with Longden – 54 runs – and Lewis – 77 – was broken, the Gents went for the win.

With advice to change his angle of attack to around the wicket Bob Miller produced a fantastic bowling display and a procession of Stock batsmen came and went as he cleaned up with figures of 5-52.

Sutherby also took three excellent catches which contributed to the Gents winning by 104 runs.



● Christian Robinson ext 58883

## Christmas shopping ideas

I KNOW it is a little early to be thinking about Christmas but it's probably a good time to start planning for the silly season.

The Essex Police Sports Association has various benefits which can save our members money at this time of year.

The sports shop is stocking some new perfume and attractive gift sets at competitive price. We also have some perfume on sale, while stocks last. If you have any specific sports gifts in mind, please pop into the shop and ask Jo Baker to get you a quote.

Discounted tickets are usually popular, too. Two cinema tickets in a Christmas card make a welcome gift for most people.

The online shopping company Perkz always has good ideas for gifts and its website is set up to make present hunting more interesting. All this and more can be found on the EPSA intranet site – listed under Divisions & Departments on the Site Directory



● A scene from the show

Picture by Mary Cotter

# Memories don't disappoint

**Essex Policy Musical Society Memories are Made of This September 9-12**

WHEN I looked at my programme I thought 'this is going to be a big sing' and I wasn't disappointed.

Having to learn half a dozen songs is hard enough, let alone 51 of them – and that was just the first half.

The society took the audience through the 1900s to the roaring 1920s with many well-known and not-so well-known songs.

I loved *In Ole Oklahoma* – nice touch of Brokeback Mountain – and the skeletons in *Dem Bones*. We were also treated to many duets and solos with a nice rousing first-half finale *Side By Side*.

Paul Walker opened the second half with *Leaning on a Lamp*, cleverly bringing us into the pub atmosphere of the 1930s. I would have liked a change in backdrop from the first-half, and some of the hairstyles weren't quite right, ladies.

A good rousing tap number to *Good Morning* and an hilarious *Sheikh Of Araby* and *Sand Dance* were followed

with a good comedy touch in *Waiting At The Church* – three brides – and the duet *Kiss Me Goodnight Sargn't Major* went down a treat.

The penultimate and finale no doubt brought back memories for those in the audience who went through World War Two, enabling most to join in – song sheets would have been handy.

Everything was colourful and well presented, although the pace sometimes lapsed a little.

Congratulations to director Gary Bruce – it's not an easy task to get a show together. However, little breaks in the singing with a narrator/magician/instrumentalist would have given the cast a break.

Well done lighting, sound and back-stage – without you the show won't go on – and to the cast for all the singing and dancing you undertook.

Finally, to musical director David Sherman and the boys in the band – a job well done. It was a big play for you guys too. Well done to everyone!

Pauline Curtis

# September lottery prize goes to Clacton

THE September force lottery draw saw Claire Quilter, of Clacton, win the £3,000 top prize.

Hayley Jeffrey, of the Force Information Room (FIR), won £1,000 and Pc Alun Causaker, of Chelmsford South Neighbourhood Support Team, won £500.

Winners of the £100 prizes were: Graham Forster, of Property Services; Dc Norman Stone, of Southend; Ds Alison Finch, of Thorpe le Soken; Sgt Chris Hennessy, of Essex Police College;

Chief Insp Joe Wrigley, of Great Dunmow; Pc Diane Murphy, of Laindon; Glenda Winslade, of Crime Division; Mary Stoper, of HQ Territorial Policing; Sgt Mark Wilson, of Witham Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT); Pc Stuart Smith, of Braintree South NPT; Deborah Smith, of FIR; and DI Nick Hale, of Crime Division. Winners of the £50 prizes were: Pc Jane Ball, of FIR; Peter Hamilton, of Crime Division; Pc Sally Keeble, of Colchester; Peter Sawford, of Crime

Division; Lynda Campbell, of Harlow Major Investigation Team; Cadet Luke Pitchford, of Ockendon; Pc Mark Needham, of Clacton Dog Section; Pc Barrie Kipps, of Basildon; Ray Stannard, of Chelmsford; Dc Grant Handley, of Hadleigh; Pc Oliver Aguiar, of Chelmsford; Sc Thomas McSorley, of Basildon; Sgt Iain Masheder, of Stanway Road Policing Unit; Sue Ding, retired; Dennis Kitteridge, of the IT Department; and Pc Alan Davey, of Writtle NPT.



● Paul Bird

## Paul angles for his first individual win

ANGLER Paul Bird has won the individual PSUK angling title in a nailbiting final at Barford Lakes near Norwich.

And his 62lb 15oz total helped The Essex team, of Graham Garnham, Daryl Flint, Martin Woollard, Gary Derrick and Steve Adams, come fourth overall with 63 points – winners Avon and Somerset got 35.

More than 30 teams took part and, with a match for reserve team anglers, this created a 210-strong field.

The going was tough in the first two hours but then most pegs started getting bites and bonus fish began to appear.

Bird began to produce a solid run of fish from the Match Lake but, with an hour to go, there was still no clear leader.

The last hour saw Bird and Trevor Popham, of Hampshire, in a battle. With 45 minutes to go, Bird lost a fish and broke a hooklength, just as Popham landed a big mirror carp, leaving them separated by ounces. With half an hour to go, Bird repaired his damaged hook-length and went back on the tip, taking two fish to take the individual crown by more than 10lbs.

## Volleyball team goes one step further in PSUK

AFTER winning the plate competition three years running, the men's volleyball team reached the semi-finals of the PSUK national cup.

Essex beat Grampian, Dorset and Northumbria, to come second in their pool to hosts Lothian and Borders.

However, despite putting up a very strong challenge, Essex lost in the semi-final against Strathclyde, who eventually went on to win the PSUK championship.

And there was further good news as Paul Hale, Dan Thrall and Mark Thomas have been invited to British squad training sessions.

Coach Neil Pettitt said: "The team have gone from strength to strength and I am very proud that they have got further in the PSUK championships than any other year."

● The team is always on the look-out for beginners and experienced volleyball players. Contact Neil Pettitt on ext 40517 or join a training session on Tuesdays at 7.30pm in the Essex Police College gym



● Essex Chief Constable Jim Barker-McCardle with force award-winners

Picture by Kathy Holloway

# Policing achievements recognised at awards

**ESSEX police officers, staff and volunteers have been awarded for their achievements at the force's annual awards ceremony.**

The ACTION Awards, Essex Police trophies and the Essex nominations for the annual Jane's Police Review awards were all presented in recognition of the commitment, dedication, enthusiasm and leadership shown by our colleagues.

The ACTION Awards are part of our leadership programme – ACTION is an acronym for Achievement focus, Customer first, Take responsibility for performance, Inspire high standards, Overcome hurdles and Never accept second best.

The joint winners of the PCSO ACTION Award were PCSOs Deborah Lister and Philip Long, of Tilbury Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT).

The winner of the police staff ACTION Award was area supervisor Matt Hine, of the Force Information Room.

Sgt Paul Costin, of Laindon and Basildon NPT, was presented with the Police Officer ACTION Award.

And SInsp Adam Pipe, who is based in Maldon, received the Special Constable ACTION Award. He is also Mobile Support Division's casualty reduction and operational performance manager.

This year, the force's annual trophies were presented at the

by **Morwenna Holland**

ceremony for the first time. DCI Terry Haines, of HQ Crime Division, received the Liam Briggins Award in recognition of his outstanding commitment to policing in Essex.

DCI Haines has been an ambassador for Crime Division and is regarded by many in his team as an unsung hero.

The Wilson Trophy was awarded to Pc Matthew Clark, of the Force Support Unit, following his actions to help save a young man's life.

Central Division's youth co-ordinator Pc Tina Smith won the Millard Trophy for her work with young people and, in particular, for organising the Braintree Police Crime Reduction Day.

And the Anthony Peel Trophy was awarded to Pc Toni Brockwell, of Witham, in recognition of several operations she has led in relation to scrap metal thefts and in response to issues on an estate in the town.

The Essex Police Diversity Trophy, a new award this year, was presented to joint winners Essex Police College's diversity and community placement officer Dawn Woollcott and Pc Tess Wisbey – then Thurrock hate crime liaison officer – in recognition of their personal commitment to promoting equality and diversity in the workplace and local communities.

Pc Wisbey, who is now a community engagement officer based at HQ, also received the Diversity In Action Award, for her work with vulnerable and minority adults in the Thurrock area. As the highest-placed police officer nationally in the OSPRE promotion exams, Sgt Gregory Wood, of Harlow NPT,

was awarded the Sir Jonathon Peel Trophy – he gained top marks in his Part 2 exam out of the 2,182 officers who sat it. Joseph Reynolds was named Cadet Of The Year.

The achievements of Pc Steve Fisk, the Essex Police Federation's nominee for the Sun National Police Bravery Awards, were also recognised at the ceremony.

Pc Nathan Hutchinson, of Witham Neighbourhood Support Team, was named as Essex Police Student Officer Of The Year in recognition of his high levels of enthusiasm, motivation and energy which he dedicated to learning and progressing as a police officer.

The Essex Community Police Officer Of The Year was Pc David Underwood, of Colchester Town NPT, in recognition of his achievements, dedication and commitment to both policing and the community.

Bocking NPT PCSO Claire Aherne was presented with the Essex Police Community Support Officer Of The Year award following her achievements and dedication to community policing.

And the winner of the Lifetime Achievement Award 2009 was Braintree custody sergeant Andy Goodwin.

Sgt Goodwin was presented with the award in recognition of his achievements, dedication and commitment to policing throughout his career – he has been an inspiration to his peers by demonstrating continued enthusiasm for his work.

The Essex Police Annual Awards ceremony was held at Stock Brook Manor in Stock last month. Sgt Goodwin, Pc Underwood, Pc Hutchinson, Pc Wisbey and PCSO Aherne will now go forward to the Jane's Police Review awards.

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