



Frontline

Crime down, confidence in police up, figures reveal

by Tim Feltham

THE number of crimes committed on a yearly basis across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight is continuing to fall, while public satisfaction with the police is rising.

The constabulary's performance figures for April 2008 to March 2009 were published on the force website on April 8.

They show there were 159,403 recorded offences last year, a drop of about 4,700 offences compared with the previous 12 months and 20,000 fewer than two years ago.

The total number of violent crimes is also falling while at the same time the constabulary is achieving a greater success rate in solving the most serious offences, including murder and death by dangerous driving.

The force made 78,706 arrests and detected 40,170 crimes. At 25.2 per cent, the detection rate is slightly down on last year but still up on the previous two years.

Meanwhile, for serious vio-

lent crimes, the detection rate is up from 50 per cent to 51.88 per cent.

The performance figures also include the latest results from the British Crime Survey (BCS) which asks people about their experience of crime.

They show that overall satisfaction with the constabulary is up from 60 per cent to 64 per cent and that two-thirds of people believe the force understands community issues.

Commenting on the figures, Chief Constable Alex Marshall said: "It's really good news to see that there are fewer victims across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

"I'm impressed that the number of vehicle crimes and incidents of criminal damage are down, but there's an ongoing concern around burglaries so it's important we continue pushing forward with the success of Operation Nemesis.

"The last 12 months have been very tough financially.

"I've had to reduce the number of people we employ by

200, but I've been careful to protect the frontline.

"Our focus, therefore, must be on giving excellent service to the public, getting out there and catching the most difficult offenders and being active in all neighbourhoods across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

"Everyone in the constabulary has done brilliantly in reducing the budget.

"We have also kept up a strong, encouraging and positive end-of-year performance against a backdrop of taking people out of the organisation.

"It's a difficult time financially but this performance shows we can get leaner and still improve on the frontline.

"I want to see more of the same."

Councillor Jacqui Rayment, chair of Hampshire Police Authority, said: "I am pleased with what Hampshire Constabulary has achieved in the past year to reduce the

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New assistant chief constables appointed

by Clare McIntyre

HAMPSHIRE Police Authority has appointed Steve Dann and Laura Nicholson as assistant chief constables at Hampshire Constabulary.

Mr Dann and Miss Nicholson were selected after intensive inter-

views held on April 16 and 17 in front of a panel of Police Authority members and Chief Constable Alex Marshall.

Both Mr Dann and Miss Nicholson are currently serving with the Metropolitan Police Service, and are expected to start work with Hampshire Constabulary on June 15 this year.

The two vacancies opened up following the retirement of Assistant Chief Constable Steve Watts in September 2008 and the promotion of Simon Cole to deputy chief constable last August.

Councillor Jacqui Rayment, chair of Hampshire Police Authority, said: "I am delighted we have been able to appoint two individuals of the calibre of ACC Dann and ACC Nicholson to Hampshire Constabulary."

Mr Marshall said: "Steve Dann and Laura Nicholson have demonstrated during their policing careers they are high achievers, and I am very happy they are joining my senior team at Hampshire Constabulary."

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Laura Nicholson



Steve Dann



WHILE the new skills house that has recently appeared in the grounds of the public order department at Netley may not have yet been officially opened, it has already seen a number of officers undertaking training within – and outside of – its walls.

In a dramatic moment during abseiling training for firearms officers, caught here on camera by force photographer Jan Brayley, PC Ian Baker suffered a shoulder injury while dropping over the edge of the top floor of the house.

PC Baker was unable to safely operate his equipment so instructor PC Andy Wooders dropped alongside him and assisted the injured officer to the ground.

The new house, which is purpose-designed to train officers in a variety of specialist skills, is the first of its kind in the country. It will be officially opened on June 2 and will be featured in more detail in the next edition of Frontline.



by Geoff Crowe, Joint Branch Board Chairman,
Hampshire Police Federation

FEDERATION NEWS

force and the federation about the use of the two summer training days were always around the use of them for an operation on the days on which they fell, or as an alternative, moving them to a pre-existing summer operation where rest days were always likely to be cancelled.

The latter was seen as a give-and-take situation where officers regained a day off during the busy summer leave period for a day they would most likely have been working. Recent plans to utilise these days for violent crime strategy patrols on various nights and for dates that fall outside of the summer period have caused much concern to officers in the affected areas. These concerns have been passed to chief

officers and we are awaiting a decision. The give and take described above is constantly eroded by these decisions and then officers are criticised for a lack of flexibility.

Mileage

The federation is seeking clarification of the policy on mileage in relation to two linked areas - travel between stations and defining when an officer is 'on duty'. Legal advice is clear: the mileage allowance is linked to being on duty and that this must certainly be the case once you have reached your first place of duty and until you leave your last.

Pensions

The national Police Federation won the judicial review relating to the backdating of the changes in commutation to December 1, 2006.

Those who retired with an immediate pension between then and September 2007 should receive an additional lump sum payment plus interest this month, with an option of converting that additional lump sum into a greater annuity if they so wish.

Public disorder

The ongoing debate on public order management in the national press following the G20 issues has led to heightened sen-

sitivity about allegations against officers. The federation was pleased with the force's speedy response to the *Daily Echo's* reporting of YouTube footage of an incident at St Mary's football ground. Officers should always be aware that their actions may be filmed by bystanders or CCTV and misinterpreted by witnesses and the media. Proper officer safety training and confidence in the appropriate use of force is paramount to refuting such allegations.

Mediation

Recent changes to dispute resolution rules have indicated that resolving interpersonal disputes at an early stage by mediation is a beneficial route. The force has recently arranged training for a group to perform the role of mediator in these internal disagreements. Ian Trueman and I took part in this training to gain a fuller understanding of its benefits and are in full agreement that early resolution in this way can prevent a lot of angst and

remove the need for grievance or resorting to employment tribunal. The roll out of force mediation should take place soon.

A recent case where the federation supported an officer in a claim over CRTP refusal linked to their disability was successful and as a result we are hopeful of a change in the force procedure over disability related absences. As mentioned in a previous *Frontline* article please ensure that if you are entitled to CRTP by service that you apply even if you think there will be reasons raised to refuse payment. If you don't ask you can't get and we don't get a full picture of why CRTP is being refused.

Board changes

We are pleased to welcome Inspector Allan Peacock to the board representing Roads Policing Unit inspectors. Vacancies still exist for inspectors' representatives at headquarters and North East Hampshire.

This piece has been written in early May before the federation has its annual conference (May 11 - 14) which is likely to prove an interesting affair, both in terms of public debate and in relation to the future funding of the federation. Hopefully by the time you read this a briefing will have been circulated following the conference.

'Operational' training days

Early discussions between the



by Kathy Symonds,
Branch Secretary

Collaboration programme.

There is nothing to report back to members at this time, but as things progress there undoubtedly will be. In addition to UNISON making sure that we are fully involved in the process from the very early stages, we need to ensure that savings, whether local or regional, are not solely made through attacks on police staff jobs, terms or conditions.

The spring 2009 edition of UNISON's *Profile* magazine carries a very useful and informative article about collaborative work between the Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire forces.

Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)

We have posted a link to the LGPS regulations on our intranet site. This way you'll have easier access than we did trying to find them via Google!

We have become acutely aware of difficulties with regard to ill health retirement (IHR). A dispute between the Local Government Association and the Association of Local Authority Medical Advisors, who represent the specialist doctors who assess applicants for IHR, is resulting in scheme members being denied access to IHR pensions. We will endeavour to get this sorted out, and will be in touch with you if we need you to contact your MPs about this.

Force Policies and Procedures (FPPs) under review

We are currently responding to consultation on revised procedures addressing police staff misconduct, bullying and harassment. We know from experience how important it is to ensure our FPPs are easy to understand and to work with, and for us to have an end product which is both fair to and appropriate for staff. We

will report back on the progress of this work.

Whistleblowing

You may have heard, seen or read media coverage of the action taken against a nurse who secretly filmed the conditions inside a Sussex hospital. We will not discuss the individual case, but feel it right to comment generally.

Clearly, workers who feel it necessary to raise their concerns with the employer should do so using the processes available to them in the workplace. It is absolutely right that they do so, and absolutely wrong to ignore them. When the concerns are raised, the worker has a right to expect the employer to investigate complaints thoroughly and fairly and to take appropriate action to improve matters. It is not acceptable for employers to do nothing, nor to victimise the worker who has been courageous enough to bring the matter to their attention.

So, what do you do if the employer declines to thorough-

ly investigate? Do nothing yourself? Hope that someone else takes the initiative? Look for another job? Raise a formal grievance citing the employer's failure to act?

I wish we had the definitive answer but we don't. All we can say is that poor practices and conditions HAVE to be highlighted, addressed and measures put in place to prevent a recurrence.

Families Day and Welfare Annual General Meeting

We'll be hosting our usual bottle stall at Families Day on June 6, raising funds for Naomi House and Earl Mountbatten Hospices. Pay us a visit if you can.

The AGM of the force welfare fund is being held on June 26. It is hoped that a drive to increase membership will be launched to coincide with the AGM so look out for the publicity.

Financial year

Now that we have reached the end of the financial year, the authority is able to look back at force performance over a complete 12 months, and identify any trends or patterns that require closer attention by our members. The overall trend is that crime has reduced across the two counties by 2.89 per cent, which translates into 4,749 fewer crimes compared to last year. There are some areas where the margin of reduction has been low, namely assaults with less serious injuries and serious violent crime. On the other hand, there are some excellent results, and officers should be commended.

The authority puts great importance on the level of overall public satisfaction and sets a challenging target. The constabulary has not only achieved the target but exceeded it by 2 per cent. Serious acquisitive crime rates have also reduced further than the targets set, and that is before the results of Operation Nemesis have been taken into

consideration.

The role of the authority is not just about scrutiny - it is also about offering praise when a job has been completed well, or offering support, advice and guidance from an independent perspective when performance falls below the level expected.

Families Day

Some of our members and staff will be at Families Day at Netley at the beginning of June, so if you have not come into contact with the authority during your day-to-day business, please come and visit us to find out more about our work, and how we can support you in your duty of serving the people of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. It will be the first ever Families Day that I have missed, but I hope all those who attend will have a great day, and that the weather is good!

Police staff posts

Earlier in the year we heard of the need to reduce police staff posts by approximately 100 because of the force's budget deficit. I am relieved to report that at the recent joint negotiating and consultative committee, the deputy chief constable confirmed that the reductions required to balance the budget have been achieved through the deletion of already vacant posts, and through the deletion of other posts that we were already aware of. Thankfully, with only a few exceptions where staff mem-

bers opted to retire or leave, staff were redeployed.

Work around efficiencies continues. Any organisation has a responsibility to ensure it is carrying out its business as efficiently and effectively as possible, and the public sector is no exception. In fact we come under greater scrutiny than most!

Included in this process is the exploration of collaboration and shared services. In March, UNISON branch secretaries from this region were invited to a briefing from the South East Region



by Councillor Jacqui Rayment, Chair,
Hampshire Police Authority

Comings and goings

The final members of the new-look chief officers' team were selected last month with the appointment of Steve Dann and Laura Nicholson, both from the Met Police, as the new assistant chief constables after two days of intensive interviews.

This was the third time the Chief Officer Appointments Committee had met in the past 12 months, following the processes last year to appoint the chief constable and deputy chief constable. We received a good level of interest in the

assistant chief constable posts, and interviewed some excellent candidates. The future of the police service in this country will be in good hands if the recent crop of graduates from the senior command course continue to rise up the ranks. Hampshire Police Authority is looking forward to working with Steve and Laura in the coming years, and we are confident they will settle into their new roles well, making a real difference to our communities.

We are also going to be welcoming new faces to the authority in the summer. The identity of some will not be known until after the local elections on June 4, but one member who will not be returning to the authority is Councillor David Gillett. David has been the chair of the Information and Communication Technology Strategy Committee for the past two years, scrutinising an area of work that can have costly - both in terms of the consequences if we don't get it right and in financial terms. At

the last authority meeting, I was not the only member to recognise the excellent work he has done on behalf of the authority, and we wish him well for the future.

One new face that is confirmed is the new chief executive for the authority. There was strong interest from a wide range of candidates wanting to take up the position, from both the private and public sectors, and we appointed an individual who is able to lead the authority through a challenging period ahead of us. We were delighted to welcome Jenni Douglas-Todd, who will be joining us from the Independent Police Complaints Commission, where she was the director for policy and research. Jenni is currently on a secondment in Turkey for the Home Office, helping law enforcement agencies to set up an effective complaints and misconduct system. She will be based at the authority's offices in Winchester, and I am delighted we have appointed someone of her calibre.



Child sex assault referral centre opens

by Lucy Dibdin

A NEW centre dedicated to providing care for child victims of sexual abuse and assault has opened in Southampton.

The Magnolia Centre has been developed by Hampshire Constabulary working in partnership with Southampton Community Healthcare and was officially opened on April 16 at its secure site at Southampton General Hospital.

Detective Chief Inspector Linda Dawson, from Hampshire Constabulary's Specialist Investigations department, said: "The centre provides a one-stop shop approach, so that any victim of child abuse who needs to be physically examined as well as providing an interview to police can do so in an environment which will give them the

maximum support, and whereby we can gain best evidence.

"We can now do that without having to take them to a number of different places, a process which can only add to their upset and trauma.

"The building has been modernised, is child friendly and has all the facilities to ensure that we reduce the trauma to the child and their family."

June Bridle, chair of Southampton Community Healthcare, said: "I am honoured to be officially opening the Magnolia Centre which provides a vital role in helping young victims of sexual abuse and assault.

"Words cannot express the terrible situations that young children are sometimes exposed to and it is crucial that services such as the one provided by the

Magnolia Centre are available for young people and their families and carers in Southampton."

Debbie Clarke, associate director of operations for Southampton Community Healthcare, added: "The Magnolia Centre is providing an excellent service for particularly sensitive cases involving sexual abuse and assaults on children.

"The service provides private care which is completely confidential and the newly launched Magnolia Centre offers improved levels of professional help from a joint initiative between the local NHS and Hampshire Constabulary."

The Magnolia Centre's service involves paediatricians, specialist police officers from the Child Abuse Investigation Unit at Netley, specialist nurses and social workers.



Crime figures down

...Continued from front page

number of crimes committed.

"We know that crime is falling, and the statistics back this up.

"The chief constable and his staff should not be complacent though, and the authority will be paying close attention to what can be done to reduce the number of serious violent crimes and ensuring that the lessons learnt from the successful Operation Nemesis campaign are being applied to other crime

areas, particularly vehicle crime.

"The constabulary should also be aware that although crime is falling, the public perception of crime is still disproportionately high.

"Officers and staff are addressing this fear of crime through the way they reassure victims, and how the Safer Neighbourhoods teams work in their community.

"A challenging target to improve public confidence in policing over the next three years has been set, and meeting this will go a long way to provide reassurance to communi-

ties."

Achievements (comparing 2008/09 with 2007/08):

- Overall crime is down 4,749 offences to 159,403;
- Assault with less serious injury is down 240 offences to 14,213;
- Serious acquisitive crime (including burglary and robbery) is down 1,210 offences to 21,575;
- Criminal damage is down 3,459 offences to 35,409.

New ACCs appointed

...Continued from front page

ACC Dann, 46, has served in the Met since 1981 and is currently borough commander in Hackney.

He has worked for two years for the Police Ombudsman of Northern Ireland investigating deaths in custody and police shootings.

He was the senior investigating officer for the review of the 1961

'A6 murder', which resulted in the appeal against the conviction of James Hanratty being upheld because of conclusive DNA evidence found during the review.

ACC Nicholson, 43, comes to Hampshire Constabulary from her post in the Met Police of borough commander for Kingston-upon-Thames.

She has served across London and has worked within the Professional Standards Department.

ACC Dann will take over Personnel and Operational Services which will include the Operations OCU.

ACC Nicholson will be responsible for Territorial Operations, which now includes the Call Management department, to ensure that the service given by the police from first call to resolution falls within one portfolio.

Both will be based at police headquarters in Winchester.

New HPA chief executive



Jenni Douglas-Todd

by Susan Rolling

JENNI Douglas-Todd has been selected as the new chief executive of Hampshire Police Authority.

Mrs Douglas-Todd, 46, joins the authority from the Independent Police Complaints Commission, where she was the director for policy and research.

She has also recently completed a secondment with the Home Office where she helped law enforcement agencies in Turkey to set up an effective complaints and misconduct system.

Mrs Douglas-Todd was selected from a shortlist of six candidates after a good response to the call for a replacement for Jeff

Pattison, who retired at the end of March.

Councillor Jacqui Rayment, chair of Hampshire Police Authority, said: "When selecting a chief executive, we looked for someone who could lead the members and officers of the Police Authority through the challenging period ahead of us.

"We also wanted someone who could work closely with Chief Constable Alex Marshall and his team of senior officers to effectively scrutinise, but also support, the work of Hampshire Constabulary.

"We believe that, by appointing Jenni, we have found an individual who is more than capable of

taking the authority forward. This should give the public confidence that the work we do, ensuring Hampshire and the Isle of Wight have an effective and efficient police service, is being led by the best possible team."

Mrs Douglas-Todd said: "I am extremely delighted to be appointed and look forward to working with the Police Authority and Hampshire Constabulary in meeting the challenges of modern policing and the vision of an ambitious police force.

"During my first few months I will want to meet as many people as possible to hear the expectations of the Police Authority and constabulary and our communities and partners."

Mrs Douglas-Todd is expected to take up her role in the next three months.

She will be the first full time chief executive of the authority, following the job share arrangement that was in place with Jeff Pattison, who was Hampshire County Council's head of Legal Services, and Peter Robertson before that, who was Hampshire County Council's chief executive.

Following an internal staff review of the authority, members decided that a full time chief executive would place the authority in a strong position to deal with the challenges of the future, such as changes as a result of the Policing and Crime Bill and the introduction of police authority inspections, which will see Hampshire assessed in the autumn.

It also brings the authority in line with other police authorities around the country who already have full time chief executives in place.

Operation Nemesis Operation Nemesis

Burglary victims satisfied with police service

VICTIMS of burglary living in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight say they are satisfied with the service they have received from the police following the crimes against them.

Victim satisfaction has gone up by 4 per cent since the start of the force's Operation Nemesis anti-burglary campaign.

A selection of comments from burglary victims have been recorded on a DVD, which is to be shown to all officers and staff throughout the force.

Now into its fifth month, Operation Nemesis has turned its attention to how staff and officers care for victims of crime.

As part of the force's Policing Pledge, officers have a commitment to meet with every victim of crime who requests they do so.

In the four short films which appear on the DVD three families and a single woman are interviewed by Nemesis lead Detective Superintendent Sara Glen about their experiences and their views on the police response to the burglary.

One of the aims of Operation

Nemesis is to increase the support given to victims when investigating burglary, whether through the officer in the case keeping the victim better informed or simply making sure that support services such as Victim Support and the Bobby Trust are used to their full potential.

One victim who was interviewed described how the feeling of having someone break into their home and steal their property left them feeling 'traumatised' and also explained how they felt there was 'lack of information', leaving them 'excluded from the investigations'.

Another victim praised the service received, saying: "I thought the police were great - they delivered an outstanding service.

"Although it was a horrible experience, it made me realise that we are very lucky to have such well trained officers."

Another victim offered some useful feedback about how officers should consider how they give advice to people who have just been burgled: "To be told the burglars may come back as a con-

sequence of your car keys being stolen was, for me, the worst part of the experience.

"While it may be true, there would have been a less frightening way of giving the message."

Other victims said it would have been nice to have "someone come and see you afterwards instead of a voice on the phone.

"More support and advice on what to do to secure my home would also have been useful."

For most victims, police referral is the first time they have heard of the range of services offered by Victim Support and the other support groups.

Det Supt Glen said: "This is welcome evidence and there is much to be proud of.

"We all need to think about the people we serve and show them that we care by not only doing a good investigation but providing an excellent service too."

If you would like a copy of the DVD, which was shown at the internal Operation Nemesis briefing, email DCI Pete Gallagher. The DVD is for internal use only.

Music festival conspiracy

by Duncan Smith

A NATIONAL conspiracy to commit an organised fraud worth up to half a million pounds was uncovered through the determination of detectives from the Isle of Wight.

Their investigation into the production, supply and sale of counterfeit wristbands at music festivals across the UK is now recognised as an example of best practice by the Association of Chief Police Officer (ACPO) and other police forces.

Operation Romulus resulted in a man, who played a pivotal role in the conspiracy, receiving a two-year prison sentence at the Isle of Wight Crown Court on April 17. Bradley John Govier, aged 42, of High Street, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, had pleaded guilty to conspiracy to defraud music festival organisers.

Initial enquiries focused on suspicions concerning counterfeit wristbands seized at the sold-out Isle of Wight Festival in June 2007 when the Rolling Stones were the headline act.

Detective Chief Inspector Clive Merrett said: "Detectives from the Isle of Wight CID displayed exceptional persistence in leading extensive nationwide enquiries to discover a large organised fraud affecting music festivals over several years.

"Officers travelled to Southend-on-Sea in Essex to search properties and gather DNA, forensic and telecommunications evidence."

The investigation revealed that offenders placed bulk orders for blank wristbands in the days before a festival, after

obtaining inside information about the right colour.

Those involved in the fraud would also discover the correct artwork in advance so they could reproduce the design onto the blank bands.

Detective Inspector Nick Heelan said: "Isle of Wight officers have given advice and presentations to ACPO, other police forces, and large public ticketed events about the skills

used in this investigation.

"Police on the island are continuing to work closely with festival organisers on increased security measures to prevent counterfeiting, and identify fake wristbands.

"I would like to praise the team of officers, in particular Detective Constable Lee Parker, for their diligence and commitment in uncovering these offences."



ONE MAN BANNED – DCI Clive Merrett with some of the counterfeit wristbands which led to a two year prison sentence for Bradley John Govier. Picture courtesy of Isle of Wight County Press

Domestic abuse victims welcome launch of dedicated court

by Duncan Smith

TWO nationally renowned campaigners whose lives have been affected by domestic abuse are welcoming the creation of a specific court to deal with such cases on the Isle of Wight.

Frank Mullane, whose sister Julia Pemberton and nephew William were murdered by William's father, Alan, in Berkshire in 2003, was invited as a guest speaker to the official launch of the island's Specialist Domestic Abuse Court (SDAC) at Northwood House in Cowes on April 3.

He was joined by fellow guest speaker, Helen Nelder, a theatrical writer and director who wrote the play *Worn* about domestic abuse based on personal experience.

Better support for victims and witnesses and more consistent sentences for offenders are key aims for the new court, which hears domestic abuse cases every Monday in Newport on the island. Hampshire Constabulary, Her Majesty's Courts Service (HMCS), the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), magistrates, the

Probation Service, the Women's Refuge, Witness Support and Isle of Wight Council all signed a protocol for the SDAC. This includes protection and support to victims and witnesses of domestic abuse, appropriate sentences for offenders, improving the quality of evidence available at court, and reduced delays through effective management of cases.

Frank Mullane, founder and co-ordinator of Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse and a member of the Government's Victims' Advisory Panel, said: "The authorities must see domestic abuse through victims' eyes.

"For my sister, it was a form of 'coercive control'.

"If we see domestic violence from the victim's perspective, we will begin to understand the compromises and choices they are faced with each day and then we will provide the services that are needed.

"Don't give up on the victim please.

"You might be the only group of people with an opportunity to prevent abuse, serious injury and murder."

Helen Nelder said: "It's difficult to imagine how it feels to experience domestic abuse.

"My sense of self was eroded through psychological and emotional torture, it was very hard to make rational decisions under the circumstances and I didn't know where I could go.

"This court is a fantastic step forward towards eliminating discrepancies in sentencing, and creating a better understanding of the complexities surrounding domestic abuse."

Inspector Owen Kenny, who leads the Isle of Wight's Public Protection Unit (PPU), said: "The formation of our SDAC provides confidence to victims and ensures them that they are protected and supported from the time of reporting abuse, throughout the process of the criminal justice system and beyond.

"This will encourage victims who 'suffer in silence' to report abuse with the confidence that they and their children will be looked after. The SDAC enhances the existing strong partnership approach to tackling domestic abuse on the Isle of Wight."

St Mary's Stadium arrest: police actions 'reasonable'

by Clare McIntyre

AN INQUIRY by Hampshire Constabulary's Professional Standards Department (PSD) into the arrest of a member of the public at the Southampton football match against Charlton at St Mary's Stadium on April 4 concluded that the officers' actions were "necessary, proportionate and reasonable".

The investigation concluded that officers had not breached either force policy or national police conduct regulations.

The inquiry was launched after video footage of the arrest filmed by a Southampton fan at the stadium emerged on YouTube.

As part of the investigation, PSD looked at video and CCTV footage of officers' handling of a member of the public.

They also spoke to the officers involved and to the member of public, who indicated that he did not wish to make a complaint about his arrest.

The YouTube footage of the St Mary's arrest made the news at a time when police actions were

already under scrutiny after clashes between officers and demonstrators at the G20 protests in London.

Video footage of riot police dealing with protesters, filmed by members of the public, had raised questions about police powers.

Deputy Chief Constable Simon Cole said: "Around 80 police officers and police staff were deployed to St Mary's Stadium and after the match, police had to keep apart supporters on both sides for the fans' own safety.

"As the footage clearly shows, the police had to do this while they themselves were subjected to abuse and threats in a volatile environment.

"The man in the footage was arrested on suspicion of a breach of the peace but he resisted arrest.

"The officers attempted to gain compliance in a difficult situation.

"The officers' actions were deemed to be necessary, proportionate and reasonable in the circumstances of the disorder that took place."

Police made three arrests during and immediately after the match for public order and breach of the peace type offences.

Hampshire Constabulary had not received any complaints in relation to the incident shown in the footage before the *Daily Echo* brought the video footage to the attention of the force and the public on April 22.

Mr Cole said: "It is right that the public should question our use of force when we are called on to maintain public order.

"However, officers should not be afraid to carry out their duties in protecting the wider public, suspects and themselves.

"The law allows for the use of reasonable force to make an arrest.

"The Association of Chief Police Officers and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary are already conducting a review of the policing of public order incidents and I echo their calls for a calm, honest and open public debate on the issue."

Abusive carers brought to justice

by Duncan Smith

HAMPSHIRE Constabulary's first successful prosecution under a new piece of legislation has been secured by Isle of Wight Public Protection Unit (PPU) officers working in close co-operation with partner agencies.

Two 22-year-old women were convicted of charges through the Mental Capacity Act 2005 after both pleaded guilty to ill treatment and wilful neglect of elderly patients with severe dementia at the Orchard House care home in Newport on the island.

A crown court judge told both carers they were fortunate not to be jailed after filming their abuse of patients on mobile phones.

A whistleblower alerted the authorities to this footage,

which was seized by PPU officers, and shown to the court during the defendants' sentencing.

Amy Lacey, of Hefford Road, East Cowes, and Carla Hetherington, of Green Lane, Shanklin, were both given 12-month community orders and told to complete 200 and 150 hours of unpaid work respectively.

Detective Chief Inspector Clive Merrett of Hampshire Constabulary's Newport CID said: "The protection of vulnerable adults is a high priority for police, and we dedicate focused resources to detect and prevent offences of this nature with partner organisations.

"Specialist officers from the Isle of Wight Public Protection Unit worked closely with Isle of Wight Council, the NHS, and Orchard House management to

investigate these allegations swiftly and robustly.

"Police used new legislation under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 to charge two women whose behaviour displayed a criminal disregard for the life limiting effects of a serious medical condition.

"This case sends a clear message about the consequences for anyone who abuses a position of trust and responsibility with vulnerable adults."

Tim Cole, district crown prosecutor for the IOW, said: "This was an extremely distressing case, in which some of the most vulnerable members of our society were mistreated and humiliated by the very people who were entrusted to care for them.

"By using the new legislation under the Mental Capacity Act the charges properly reflected the gravity of the crime."

Sir Hugh is new president of ACPO

SIR Hugh Orde, the Chief Constable of Northern Ireland, has been named as the new president of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO).

He defeated two other candidates in a poll of more than 300 of the most senior officers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Sir Hugh beat British Transport Police chief constable Ian Johnston and Cambridgeshire police chief Julie Spence to the post.

Sir Hugh, 50, is expected to remain in post in Belfast until taking up the ACPO role at the end of the summer.

Sir Ken Jones, outgoing ACPO president, said: "Sir Hugh brings a wealth of experience and leadership to ACPO at what is likely to be a very difficult and challenging time

for the service."

Sir Hugh has been responsible for policing in Northern Ireland for the past seven years.

He has been credited with



Sir Hugh Orde

guiding the Police Service of Northern Ireland through a turbulent period after it replaced the Royal Ulster Constabulary in 2001.

Sir Hugh said: "I believe that UK policing is strongest when it is professional, operationally independent, and based on trust and accountability.

"Above all, our decisions should be tested against the reason for which we all joined policing: the protection of the public."

Sir Ken added: "Increasingly the service (of ACPO) and its leadership are being drawn into political controversies and it will fall to Sir Hugh to steer us on a sure path through the forthcoming period, both up to an beyond the next general election."

Major supermarket banned from selling alcohol

POLICE from Portsmouth's licensing team served Sainsbury's in Farlington with a 48-hour alcohol closure notice after the store repeatedly failed test purchase operations.

Between 7am on Friday, May 8 and 7am on Sunday, May 10, Sainsbury's in Fitzherbert Road, Portsmouth, was banned from serving alcohol to any customers.

The store remained open for other sales.

The notice was served after staff at the store sold alcohol to young people under the age of 18 three times during test purchase operations carried out in Portsmouth between January and March this year.

Although not the first time this legislation has been used, this was the first time a major supermarket in the UK had been banned from selling alcohol. At the time of the

ban this attracted attention from national media as well as those covering the story locally, giving a strong message to other retailers.

Sergeant Wendie Douglas said: "There were options available to us and on this occasion we offered Sainsbury's two options. Under Section 169A(2) of the Licensing Act 2003 Sainsbury's could either accept the 48-hour alcohol closure or decide to go to court.

"Sainsbury's chose to accept the 48-hour ban.

"Officers have carried out a number of test purchase operations at Sainsbury's since March and on each occasion staff have refused to sell alcohol to the young people which shows they are taking their responsibilities seriously.

"Sainsbury's have taken the

failures very seriously and will continue to work with us in training their staff and refusing to sell alcohol to young people."

Principal Trading Standards officer, Neil Fitzpatrick, said: "After the disappointing initial results, we are pleased that subsequent re-tests have resulted in Sainsbury's staff refusing to serve alcohol to individuals under the age of 18.

"This clearly demonstrates that there is significant room for improvement even in large supermarkets.

"Trading Standards would like to help retailers to understand the law and ensure their staff are adequately trained.

"Enforcement action is always a last resort and I would urge retailers to contact us if they require training assistance or information."

Police crack down on poachers in Test Valley

by Alan Smith

THE Stockbridge-based rural Safer Neighbourhoods team (SNT) is cracking down on poachers caught in the Test Valley area.

It comes as four men from Southampton and Totton were recently convicted of offences under the Trespassing on Land in Pursuit of Game Act in Middle Wallop last September.

PC Tim Bonsor, who was in charge of that investigation, said: "In recent months, there's been an increase in the number of reported incidents of suspected poaching across the rural areas of Test Valley.

"Apart from the direct consequences of such crime, local farmers and landowners often suffer other losses such as damage to

crops, fences and livestock. They also often feel intimidated by groups who trespass on their land."

The rural SNT has now set up additional 'poaching patrols' using 4x4 vehicles and all-terrain bicycles to cover remote areas where poachers often operate.

Test Valley rural SNT Sergeant Glenn Curtis said: "We're working with landowners, farmers and gamekeepers to locate and deal with those responsible for offences on their land like criminal damage, theft or poaching.

"With the help of a local farm secretary, we've revived local Countrywatch schemes with the intention of setting up action groups to target the problems faced by the farming community."

A dedicated mobile phone num-

ber was circulated to all Countrywatch members for them to contact the police team at Stockbridge directly.

It was used recently when gamekeepers found unwanted guests on their land. Police can also use it to send text alerts when vehicles or people are seen acting suspiciously.

Sgt Curtis concluded: "Involving the rural community makes us one very large team and I am confident it will have a big impact on our efforts to reduce rural crime.

"The recent conviction of four men from the Southampton area for poaching offences will hopefully send out a strong message that these offences are a priority to the rural team and will be dealt with robustly."



BANKING ON SUCCESS – PCSO Mike Alder and PC Bill Williams of Western OCU are working with the rural community to put a stop to poaching.

Schoolchildren flock to SKAA at city guildhall

by Gaetana Prassede

SCHOOLCHILDREN from across Southampton flocked to the city's guildhall during the Easter break as part of a police-led event aimed at educating young people about the impact and dangers of alcohol.

More than 600 11-16 year olds descended on the city centre venue to take part in an action-packed initiative called SKAA (Southampton Kids Alcohol Awareness), hosted by Southampton Operational Command Unit (OCU).

The OCU was able to host the event thanks to government funding given to selected forces for use on alcohol enforcement and awareness campaigns.

SKAA took place from midday on April 6, with a host of exhibitors talking to and educating children about the effects of alcohol and enabling them to make responsible and healthy decisions.

Those taking part included Hampshire Constabulary, Hampshire Fire and Rescue, No Limits, the YMCA, the Star Project and Southampton's E

Minor Pop Academy.

Students learnt about the different risks associated with drinking alcohol, road safety, health risks, unwanted pregnancies and the outcomes of offending.

There was also an interactive element to the day with the Solomon Theatre Company, mobile high rope equipment and personal safety trainers from Hampshire Constabulary offering workshops and sessions.

In the evening the children enjoyed a non-alcoholic neon-themed gig featuring sets from Lisa Maffia, local DJs, MCs and break and street dancers.

Inspector Lisa Stevens, who co-ordinated the day, said: "This event was a great success and an innovative way to try to educate young people about the risks and consequences of using alcohol.

"Hopefully we have been able to make a difference to the lives of the young people who attended by giving them facts and information so they feel empowered to make informed decisions."

A competition to encourage young people to think about alcohol and its dangers was also launched by the OCU to tie in



with SKAA.

Schoolchildren invited to the event were asked to come up with a piece of artwork, writing or poetry highlighting problems associated with alcohol if it isn't used responsibly.

The winning entries were displayed during the day and John Lewis kindly donated iPods for first, second and third place.

The winners were presented with certificates by Chief Constable Alex Marshall, who came along to SKAA during the evening to meet the children, speak to organisers and enter into the spirit of the event.

Bus travel to and from the SKAA event was kindly provided for free by First Hampshire & Dorset Ltd.

A SKAA podcast, or plodcast, has been recorded by Southampton OCU media officer Ian Sainsbury and features on the Southampton OCU pages of the force website.



ENTERTAINMENT AND AWARENESS – Sergeant Jon Tilbury with young people who attended the SKAA event.

Giving cold callers the cold shoulder

by Neil Miller

THE quest to banish common preying on the vulnerable in their homes is being stepped up in East Hampshire.

In an effort to send rogue traders and distraction burglars packing, four new No Cold Calling Zones covering 130 homes have been introduced in Rowlands Castle.

The aim of No Cold Calling Zones is to discourage common from knocking on the doors of people living in the zones and give residents the confidence to say "no" to people seeking business at their doorsteps.

The zones are not meant to stop legitimate callers such as charities, councillors or MPs canvassing for election purposes, but to deter people who are unknown to the residents

from seeking work that is often overpriced or unnecessary.

No Cold Calling Zones are a partnership initiative between the police, trading standards officers and councillors.

Residents living in the selected areas are being given No Cold Calling Zone packs containing information about the scheme, consumer advice and details on cancellation rights.

Also included are window stickers, telling visitors that cold callers are not welcome, and a copy of the new and improved Buy With Confidence directory of trading standards-approved traders.

Sergeant Mike Haines, of the South of Butser Safer

Neighbourhoods team, said: "Rogue traders and distraction burglars often target the elderly and vulnerable in our communities and not only take people's hard-earned money but also destroy their confidence and steal their independence.

"By extending No Cold Calling Zones across the county we are sending out a strong message to all bogus callers that they will not be tolerated in Hampshire.

"Hampshire Constabulary is committed to working with partner agencies on important projects like this that can significantly improve the quality of life of residents in the local area."

No pain, no gain!



Three brave crime scene investigators are preparing to grin and bear it when they have their hairy chests and legs waxed to raise money for Help for Heroes.

Simon Mound, Vince Richards and Glyn Eastham, all CSIs from the Scientific Services department, will be stripped of body hair at a special event at Netley on September 10.

The charity wax was the idea of Forensic Resource Management Unit (FRMU) controller Dawn Platt, who persuaded her hirsute colleagues to suffer in the name of charity.

Vince will be submitting to having his chest waxed, Glyn will have his legs rendered hair-free and Simon may go for both.

Every penny raised will go to the locally based charity, which provides help and assistance to injured servicemen and women and their families.

Sponsor forms are held at the FRMU at Netley, and the Scenes of Crime offices at Fareham and Hulse Road. Alternatively, anyone wishing to make a pledge can contact Dawn Platt direct via email.

Pictured left to right are Simon, Vince, Glyn and Dawn.

police credit union

Police raise the bar for licensing standards

by **Duncan Smith**

THE police licensing team from the Isle of Wight are serving up a successful cocktail of measures with partner organisations to continue reducing alcohol-fuelled crime and disorder.

Isle of Wight Council and Hampshire Constabulary hosted the island's first Best Bar None awards at the Ryde Castle Hotel.

Best Bar None is a national accreditation scheme that provides an opportunity for the managers of licensed premises to prove how well they run their businesses.

More than 20 licensees on the island so far have achieved recognition from the initiative, which is also supported by the Isle of Wight College.

Isle of Wight Chief Superintendent Dave Thomas said: "These awards help

encourage the managers and staff of pubs and clubs to ensure their premises are safe places for people to socialise.

"The participants and winners deserve congratulations for their tremendous efforts towards setting a standard for other licensees to follow."

Licensing officer, PC Adrian Cleightonhills said: "Like a car's MOT test, it doesn't end here.

"It's up to all of the licensees to ensure the measures they have in place are complied with in future, and like the car, regular maintenance is required with weekly checks."

The licensing team on the Isle of Wight also employs a traffic light warning system to identify a top 10 list of premises where crime is an issue.

Police and local hospital data is used to help officers

respond to any problems in a targeted way. Individual offences are graded according to their seriousness, and given a score between one and five.

Premises are rated red, amber or green, according to their capacity and the number of points they have picked up during a six-month period.

The system, which is based on an initiative in Cardiff, has contributed to a 16 per cent decrease in public disorder and assaults on the Isle of Wight between April 1, 2008 and the middle of March this year when compared to the same period a year earlier.

PC Cleightonhills added: "The adoption of this formula enables us to work in partnership with licence holders to further promote the licensing objectives and reduce the amount of occurrences in their premises."

Alex awarded for being 'on the ball'

by **Alan Smith**

PCSO Alex Dawson, from Eastleigh Safer Neighbourhoods team, has received recognition from Eastleigh Borough Council for helping reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour in the town with his Friday Night Football scheme.

Alex worked with Eastleigh Community Safety Partnership and NACRO, the crime reducing charity, to introduce Friday Night Football in August 2008, providing a combination of structured football coaching, small sided games and general education and awareness presentations designed to help protect young people.

These include bi-monthly road-show style lessons covering a

range of topics, including sexual health, substance abuse, underage drinking and the effects of dangerous driving.

Partner agencies have assisted with this and most recently Friday Night Football received a visit from Hampshire Constabulary's FAKE (Firearms And Knife Education) team.

The project actively engages with large numbers of youngsters and has been a significant factor in the reduction in reports of criminal damage and anti-social behaviour.

Attendance figures are regularly over 35 and have even exceeded 50 young people turning up on a number of occasions.

The initiative won awards for its crime prevention impact in the

local community and its aim to educate local youths in social responsibility and community respect.

The model for the project has taken almost two years to hone with lessons learnt through trial and error, and continued reflection on how everyone can collectively help reduce crime and make neighbourhoods better places to live, by diverting youths away from 'hot-spots' and onto activities like Friday Night Football.

The scheme is now considered best practice across the borough of Eastleigh and has since been implemented in Hamble.

It is also being considered for the Bishopstoke area.

RECOGNITION – PCSO Alex Dawson receives his award from Councillor Chris Thomas.



Marathon efforts

HAMPSHIRE Constabulary was well represented in this year's Flora London Marathon, with thousands of pounds being raised for charity in the race which took place on Sunday, April 26.

Two Fareham police officers swapped their body armour for tutus, but all for a good cause. PCs Dave Langford and Chris Loynes have both taken part in the race before, this year running in aid of Whizz-Kids, a charity which provides mobility equipment for disabled children.

Both officers are based at Fareham police station and Dave said they decided to run in ballet get-up to add a bit of humour to the gruelling 26 mile race.

"The day was great, just really hot which made it hard going.

"The crowds were the only thing which kept us going and the support was greatly appreciated.

"I finished in four hours and 42 minutes, and Chris beat me

by ten minutes.

"So far we have raised around £1,600 with the last few bits of sponsorship coming in."

Also taking part were DC Gary Steward from Shirley, who raised around £2,000 for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC), Roads Policing Inspector Beth Pirie who raised £1,900 for Help for Heroes and Shanklin based Roads Policing Unit officer Martin Norman who ran with a friend, together raising £9,500 for the Isle of Wight Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI).

Regular *Frontline* readers will recall Portsmouth based officer Gary Cable's marathon diaries as he trained for the event.

Unfortunately he was forced to withdraw through injury.

Gary said: "I didn't feel that the pain I had in my knee was getting any better and so in mid-March I was referred to see a surgeon, who told me that I

have torn the cartilage in my knee and sadly could no longer do the marathon.

"I am currently awaiting a scan to assess the full extent of the damage to my cartilage, before a decision in relation to surgery can be made.

"I was signed up to run for Crimestoppers, who have been fantastic in their support and have agreed to defer my place in the marathon until 2010, if I am fit enough to run it next year.

"It's sad I had to do this at such a late stage but I was simply unable to take part.

"I want to say a huge thank you to all my friends and colleagues who have offered their support and pledged donations.

"I wouldn't have been able to get as far as I did without everyone being behind me, and I'm extremely grateful for all your kind wishes.

Hopefully Gary will be back on track in time for next year's marathon – watch this space.



PLIÉ-SED TO HAVE FINISHED – PCs Langford and Loynes have raised around £1,600 for Whizz-Kids by running the London Marathon.

Safer Neighbourhoods teams shortlisted for national accolade

by Gaetana Prassede

ENCOURAGING young people to take pride in their community and clean up their neighbourhood has gained Safer Neighbourhood teams (SNTs) in Southampton national recognition.

Earlier this year, the Northam and St Mary's SNTs, led by Sergeant Dick Partridge, were jointly shortlisted with Swaythling Housing Association in the Best Practice in the Community category of the Southern Region Connecting People Awards, for their junior police community support officer (PCSO) schemes.

Although they didn't win their category, the SNTs were shortlisted from over 100 nominations and have gained well-deserved recognition for their hard work in bringing their community together and promoting pride in their neighbourhoods.

The awards are organised by Northern, Midlands and Southern Housing Magazines in conjunction with the Tenants Participation Advisory Scheme.

Northam and St Mary's SNT were the first in the force to introduce junior PCSOs, in October 2007, after dealing with persistent nuisance problems in Lumpy Lane, Northam. PCSO Mark

Reynolds was responsible for setting up and managing the scheme.

Around £400 worth of funding was secured to establish the first initiative and, following that, another scheme was launched in the Chapel area of the city, along with the Deanery Estate.

Young people from the local area are invited to become junior PCSOs and help their communities once a week by carrying out tasks like litter picking and scrubbing off graffiti.

They work alongside local PCSOs and representatives of Swaythling Housing Association and then complete their weekly session by taking part in a sport session.

The Lumpy Lane initiative attracts around 30 local children on a weekly basis and Sgt Partridge and his team are keen to roll out more junior PCSO schemes in the city.

"Local children love being involved in junior PCSOs and it was a great achievement to be shortlisted in the Connecting People Awards and recognised for our work," said Sgt Partridge.

"We are helping to break down barriers between young people and the police in more deprived areas and the success of the schemes are clear to see.

"When we started junior

PCSOs in Lumpy Lane two of the children were on acceptable behaviour contracts (ABCs) and since joining have not been in trouble and have come off their ABCs."

Last year St Mary's and Northam SNTs, in conjunction with Swaythling Housing, secured funding to take 20 of the children with the best attendance from the three junior PCSO schemes to Fairthorne Manor Activity Centre for the day.

Last year's summer holidays saw the junior PCSO scheme link with Southampton Football Club in the Community to run football coaching sessions at St Mary's School playing fields with over 90 children being involved.

The junior PCSOs have also been busy painting a graffiti-ridden footbridge connecting the Deanery and Chapel Estates in the last year and the footbridge from Northam Road to the stadium.

The future continues to be bright with plans to set up other initiatives in the Kingsland and Golden Grove estates.

Swaythling Housing Association has also recently purchased gardening equipment for the children to use and plans are already in place to take the children on another trip this year.

Drama of honour based violence played out

A YOUNG woman waits behind 20 bolts and a stuck down letterbox for the killer she knows will inevitably find her.

So why, then, when the meter man comes, does she invite him in, pay him to stay and ask him to help chop the onions?

Peeler is a gripping new play written by Southampton writer Maggie Neville which explores the difficult themes of forced marriage and honour based violence that police officers deal with on a weekly basis.

The constabulary's lead for honour based crimes, DCI Mark Ashthorpe, said: "*Peeler* brings to life the reality for thousands of victims and those at risk of forced marriage.

"Honour based violence is an issue that affects many women, men and children in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

"They are being harmed by their families and their communities who believe they have brought shame upon them.

"Shame can be brought upon a family by even apparently

trivial transgressions, such as inappropriate dress or make-up, or resisting a forced marriage.

"This play really brings to life the issues that victims of forced marriage face."

The play has benefited from the expertise of public protection unit officers, Southampton Primary Care Trust and Hampshire County Council. It is being shown at the Nuffield Theatre in Southampton from May 27 to 30. Tickets start from £10. Call the box office on 023 8067 1771.

Health and welfare

ALL staff and their families are now being offered access to an online personal health management system as part of the force's commitment to health and welfare.

The system, provided in partnership with Revitalised Limited, is a specialist web-based health management tool which can help staff to improve their health, get fitter, lose

weight, eat healthily and reduce stress.

The site offers individually tailored support, information and guidance in all areas of well-being.

Steve Beards, Occupational Health manager, said: "The trial of the Revitalised site is to give people the chance to take ownership and make changes to their own health and well-being.

"We have extended the trial to include our families as we recognise it's a lot easier when family groups make positive lifestyle choices together and support and encourage each other."

Staff can find details of how to access the new site via the force intranet, which includes the web address and log-in code.

SmartWater on DVD

THE force continues to promote SmartWater, the forensic coding system, and has produced a short film to highlight the benefits to local residents.

The film can be found online: www.onboardtv.co.uk/smart-water.htm

Residents across Hampshire

and the Isle of Wight are being encouraged to view the short film.

SmartWater uses state-of-the-art forensic technology to protect personal and business assets and valuables.

It is an integral part of our crime-reduction strategy for deterring offences such as

theft, burglary, robbery and theft from motor vehicles.

SmartWater is used by 95 per cent of UK police forces and maintains a 100 per cent conviction rate wherever it has been used as evidence in a court of law.

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Letters

□ **HAVE YOUR SAY:** Write to *Frontline Letters, Media and Corporate Communications, Hampshire Constabulary HQ, Romsey Road, Winchester SO22 5DB* or email frontline@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Letters and emails must be no longer than 300 words and must include your full name and home town. We reserve the right to edit or omit letters. Please be aware *Frontline* is reproduced on the internet and circulated to the media.

Band thanks

I am writing to you as the president of the European Association of Airport and Seaport Police (EAASP) to respectfully ask that you pass on my sincere thanks to the Band of the Hampshire Constabulary who played at the departure of the P&O cruise ship Oriana on April 5.

The Oriana was the venue for the annual conference of the EAASP, which is attended by officials from the European Commission, senior police officers and management from security organisations across Europe specialising in aviation and maritime security.

The ship was very late in leaving Southampton, but the band remained on the quayside and

played with great skill and enthusiasm, and the feedback that I have received from the delegates was very complimentary.

A special request was made from the delegates at our conference asking me to write and pass on our gratitude to all those who took part. Our conference was a great success and the band was an excellent start to a challenging few days for the delegates.

John Donlon
President, EAASP

Not all gloom

Some of you may recall my letter in a previous issue of *Frontline* in which I pointed out that life perhaps isn't as gloomy as some officers seem to make

out. Well, since I wrote, I have been covering acting sergeant duties which have definitely been an eye-opening experience and one which I would not change for the world. It was certainly a busy year for my team.

This is where I will get to my point. Aren't we meant to be a team? I have lost count of the times I have heard that Targeted Patrol teams do more work than their Safer Neighbourhoods counterparts, that the Incident Management Unit (IMU) create more work than they file and that the wait at the back door of the custody block is just too long. The list goes on!

What I would say to those who subscribe to such a negative outlook is simple: pick up the phone,

look on the intranet but, above all, speak to people. Once we understand peoples' roles and responsibilities and the needs of different departments then we can work together with greater ease. Why not spend a couple of days with a Safer Neighbourhoods team? Visit the IMU and see the level of work their staff members deal with? Or volunteer for the next gaoler duty and see how busy the custody suite gets before deciding that the world is against you?

Law enforcement is a uniquely rewarding, challenging and exciting undertaking - one which we should all be proud to be involved with. So let's work as one team and enjoy making that difference.

PC Morgan Sheldon
Waterlooville TPT

Making a difference

Providing an excellent service is one of the force's stated priorities. Printed below are just some of the many messages of thanks from members of the public who wanted to put pen to paper to acknowledge this excellent service. These letters illustrate the difference we can make to the people we serve.

In March we reported our 38-year-old daughter missing after some seven hours absence. We would like to express our appreciation of the wonderful way with which our case was dealt. From our initial call to HQ which was dealt with by Judith, the speed of response and the kind, considerate and thoughtful manner of Acting Sergeant Douglas Westerman and PC Joanna Mansell who attended was exemplary at all stages right through to a happy conclusion. We really appreciated the professionalism, tact and handling of the delicate situation as our daughter had only just separated from her husband of 10 years and with two young children to be considered.

Fareham

On Easter Monday I had reason to call 999 when a Saab 93 soft top ran into the rear of my car and drove off without stopping. I followed the vehicle for one mile during which time it collided with the kerb once and crossed the centre line a number of times. The Saab eventually collided head-on with a bollard in the middle of the road whilst attempting to execute a left turn. PC Clare Proudfoot arrived at the scene in a police van, unaccompanied by any other officers. She immediately took control of the situation, called for medical assistance to deal with the three young children in the Saab, assessed the condition of the driver and arrested him on suspicion of drink-driving. PC Proudfoot's control of the situation and professionalism in dealing with all relevant matters merits comment, as does her follow-up action to keep interested parties informed regarding progress of the case through to the driver's appearance in court the following Tuesday.

Swindon

I was involved in a road traffic accident in March which was attended by two of your officers, PC Sven Boulton and a colleague. Fortunately, no-one was injured. I was most impressed with the efficient, patient and helpful way in

which PC Boulton dealt with the incident. He was firm and professional but took great care to ensure that everything was comprehensively explained. At the same time as leaving me in no doubt as to the possible seriousness of the incident, he did much to provide support and reduce stress for everyone involved. I realise that the police often have a difficult job to do so it is good to be able to give praise when it is due.

Swanmore

My grandson is 14 years old but has a mental age of 11. He's an easily led lad, and until recently was led easily into crime. He wasn't eating, he'd lost weight and was not the joyful boy he used to be. That is until the intervention of Sergeant Justin Noon, PCSO Matthew Manning and colleagues, who have taken my grandson under their wing to support him. He is now back to his joyful ways, eating properly and being the boy he used to be. My family are very grateful for the work PCSOs do - they are a credit to any police force for their hard work, determination, professionalism, teamwork and persistence in not giving up on a young person like my grandson.

Swaythling

I would like to thank Inspector Scott Johnson for his assistance in helping me to track down details of my late father's involvement in the Second World War. At that time my father was a police constable and he was awarded the British Empire Medal for risking his life to rescue two people from a bombed and burning house. Insp Johnson and colleagues searched the police archives but to no avail. He then contacted the Home Office's honours and briefing team, but their records go back to only 1953. Insp Johnson's persistence paid off, however, after he enquired with Buckingham Palace. Staff there were able to access the archives and find my father's details on a card index system.

Chesterfield

Our 16-year-old daughter was mugged and her mobile phone stolen while walking home from college along Shirley Road in October last year.

Unfortunately, despite every effort made by the police it was not possible to secure a conviction. We wish to say how impressed we were with the efficient, courteous and sensitive way the investigation was

handled by the police at Shirley in Southampton. We would be grateful if you could pass on thanks to all involved, in particular PC Sarah Ruddock, who left no stone unturned to try to reach a conviction. She was efficient and always kept us fully informed, even coming to visit us personally to close the case. Our daughter has fully recovered from the experience and we are all left with a very positive impression of Shirley police.

Shirley

I would like to express my gratitude PC Stacy Beale for the way that she dealt with an incident in the Devizes area.

Your officer was off duty but acted in a very professional manner when she found a group of people she suspected were involved in poaching with dogs. Hare coursing results in our force using valuable resources and causes fear among our rural communities.

PC Beale followed the suspects, giving accurate details to our control room, enabling other units to reach her exact location. The poachers tried to escape up a byway, but had to abandon their car when it

became bogged down. After a short chase up a very steep and muddy hill, PC Beale managed to detain two of the poachers.

The positive actions of PC Beale resulted in three arrests, and another poacher was arrested several hours later. PC Beale's professionalism continued and although covered in a layer of mud she returned to Devizes police station and completed her statement onto RMS.

Disruption in these cases is usually the best we can hope for but on this occasion we hopefully will be able to go to court, all thanks to your officer.

Inspector Andrew Noble,
Wiltshire Police

I wish to commend two of your personnel for their prompt and professional attendance at my home in January following a burglary. They were Crime Scene Investigator Emma Osborne and PC Jenny Carr. They were kind, helpful and sympathetic.

Stockbridge

Sergeant Penny Deacon

THE life of Hampshire Constabulary officer Penny Deacon was celebrated at her funeral on the Isle of Wight on April 17.

Sergeant Deacon died at the Royal Marsden Hospital in London on April 4, 2009, aged 33, after a three-year battle with breast cancer.

She had raised tens of thousands of pounds for charity during her fight against the disease.

Sgt Deacon joined the force in 2003. She served at Ryde police station on the Isle of Wight, and with the Training department.

Promoted to sergeant in 2006, she led the Newport North Safer Neighbourhoods team.

Chief Superintendent Dave Thomas said: "Penny was a larger than life character with a heart to match.

"I have met few people with so much energy, commitment and such a great sense of fun.

"It was impossible not to be inspired by Penny's infectious personality and zest for life.

"Her loss will leave a tremendous gap in the lives of her family, many friends and colleagues."

Obituaries

The chief constable deeply regrets to announce the death of the following retired police officers:

Constable Leslie John Whale, who died on March 12, 2009. He served with Southampton City Police for 30 years before retiring on May 1, 1977. He served at S.W.SH.Q CID, Bitterne, Shirley, Portwood and Southampton Central.

Constable Frank William John Beckett, who died on March 18, 2009. He served with Portsmouth City Police for 30

years before retiring on March 25, 1977. He served at Kingston, Portsmouth Central and Headquarters.

Constable John Hay, who died on March 27, 2009. He served with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary for 25 years before retiring on May 14, 1991. He served at Portwood and Southampton Central.

Sergeant James Victor Blake, who died on April 3, 2009. He served with Shropshire Constabulary and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary for 28 years before retiring on July 6, 1975. He served at Winchester and Gosport.

Inspector Lawrence Herbert Pither, who was tragically killed whilst cycling west of Chichester, Sussex, on April 6, 2009. He served with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary for 30 years before retiring on May 6, 1991. He served at Basingstoke, Totton, Eastleigh, Newport, District Training Centre Sandgate, Havant, Fratton, Fareham and Portsmouth Central.

Detective Sergeant Alan Kenneth Willis, who died on April 11, 2009. He served with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary for 28 years before retiring on March 7, 1990. He served at Fareham, Gosport, Portwood, Winchester, Shirley, Shanklin and Newport.

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Spotlight

Chief Inspector Gary Cooper

What job do you do with Hampshire Constabulary?

New Forest district chief inspector.

What does that involve?

Leading a team of officers and staff to police the New Forest area, which is 285 square miles of rural England with 185,000 residents and more than 13 million visitors a year.

How long have you been with the constabulary?

Almost 10 years.

What attracted you to work for the police service?

To catch criminals and keep

people safe.

What do you most enjoy about your job?

Making a difference for people that work for me.

Tell us a little bit about your job history, what jobs you liked and disliked?

My favourite role was working in the Metropolitan Police firearms unit (SO19) in London and also setting up the Force Support Unit in Hampshire. I have also enjoyed working with other forces at G8 in Scotland, G7 in Wales and recently G20 in Essex.

I didn't enjoy being one of the first officers on scene at the Clapham rail disaster.

If you could do one thing to improve the force, what would it be?

Not practical, but work without email!

What do you do in your spare time?

Play golf and DIY.

What are you most likely to be heard saying?

Any media interviews to do for the New Forest?

What annoys you?

I don't get annoyed easily but sometimes frustrated with bureaucratic processes.

What makes you happy?

Seeing other people have a good time.

Who would play you in a film of your life and why?

A young, good looking actor.

Back to the past, or forward to the future? Where would you like to go and why?

Back to the past, to Roman times because it interests me and they didn't have computers!

Who are your top three dinner party guests?

Mark Knopfler, Catherine Zeta-Jones, and Nigella Lawson to cook us something nice.

What did you want to be when you grew up?

Police officer.

What would your dream job be now?

Chief constable of Hampshire Constabulary.

Tell us one thing about yourself that no-one reading this will know.

I spent the evening with Princess Diana in Kensington Palace.



Long arm of the war

SEVERAL members of a Hampshire-based living history group will be portraying police officers of the wartime era at a number of events throughout the year.

As the nation prepares to commemorate the 65th anniversary of D-Day on June 6, the role of re-enactors has taken on a greater significance and they are in high demand not only for events, but also for TV and photo shoots, displays, assistance with school projects and help with charity fundraising.

On Parade is an informal group of likeminded people who portray life on Britain's

Home Front during the Second World War.

They hold monthly meetings in Hartley Wintney, near Fleet.

On May 7 On Parade members supported the veterans service of thanksgiving in Winchester Cathedral to commemorate the service of the Women's Land Army.

On June 4 members of On Parade and many other living history groups will travel to France where, over several days, they will support the 65th D-Day anniversary commemorations at the invitation of communities in Normandy.

At the end of June, On Parade will lend its support to

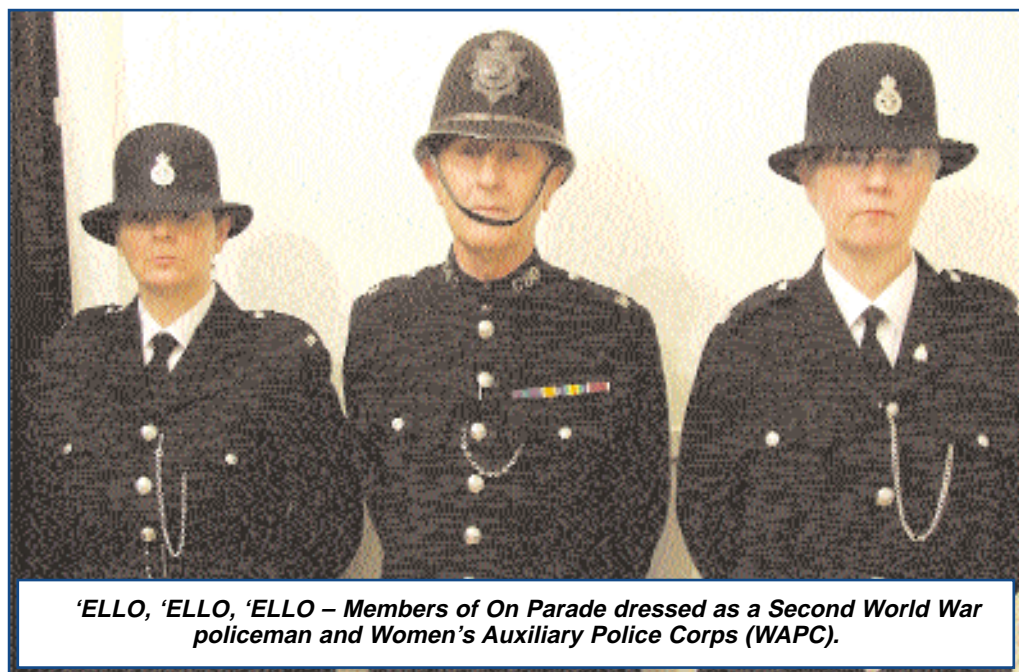
a major living history event at Lepe Country Park, near Southampton.

On Parade member, John Butcher, from Basingstoke, said: "Our portrayal is to ensure that the work of wartime police officers is not forgotten.

"They endured harsh conditions during the bombing and served their country at all times beyond the call of duty."

On Parade members portray all aspects of civilian and military life on the home front.

For more information about On Parade call John Leete on 07748 310996.



'ELLO, 'ELLO, 'ELLO – Members of On Parade dressed as a Second World War policeman and Women's Auxiliary Police Corps (WAPC).

Portsmouth City Police 42nd reunion

In March more than 100 former Portsmouth City Police officers celebrated the 42nd anniversary of the amalgamation of Portsmouth City Police with Southampton City Police

and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary to become Hampshire Constabulary. Held at the Marriott Hotel, Cosham, the event was supported by the Southampton Police Club Trust

Fund.

That so many people attended the annual event 42 years on demonstrates the camaraderie and affection still held for the Portsmouth City force.



Saturday, June 6, 2009 11am till 5pm.

At Southern Support & Training Headquarters, Hamble.

All colleagues, families and friends of Hampshire Constabulary are welcome to join us for a fun and exciting day out. Visit - Intranet/DCC/Families+Day/

Families Day
HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY





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Frontline on tape: A talking version of *Frontline* is produced on tape by volunteers from Winchester Talking Newspapers for the Blind. Please contact Keith Vincent on 01962 884088.

The contents of *Frontline* do not necessarily represent the views of the chief constable, the editor or Hampshire Constabulary.

Central OCU lifts John Davies Cup

ON a glorious April afternoon at Portsmouth FC's Fratton Park, the Central Operational Command Unit side overcame their Pompey opposition 4-0 to take the honours in this year's John Davies Memorial Cup Final.

The climax to this year's inter-OCU tournament, which is named after PC John Davies who was tragically killed at the age of 25 in a road traffic collision 30 years ago, was given even greater poignancy following the death of PC James Drew in January.

James was also tragically killed in a road traffic collision, aged 27. Central's win was a fitting tribute to the Alton-based officer who in 2004 himself tasted victory in the John Davies Cup Final after playing in goal for, coincidentally, Central OCU against Portsmouth at Fratton Park.

In his memory, the James Drew Trophy is to now be awarded annually to the John Davies Cup Final man of the match.

In front of a crowd of 100 or so, including members of the families of both John and James, Central OCU scored after just two

minutes, Mike Ashcroft netting from Mark Robinson's cross.

Ten minutes later Central made it 2-0, Robinson again the provider after latching on to a through ball, rounding the keeper and cutting back for Rich Croucher to slot home.

Portsmouth could and should have pulled a goal back when Mike Emery found himself in the box with just the keeper to beat but put his shot wide.

Minutes later only the post denied Pompey again following Colin Kirby's run and shot.

Early in the second half Central scored again. Ashcroft whipped in a low cross from the left wing which Robinson dummied to set up Dave Ford. The Central player/manager took one touch to control the ball before beating keeper Mike Broach with his second.

Still Pompey came back, stringing a succession of passes together down the right wing and peppering the Central 18-yard box with crosses.

Aaron Brown hit the Pompey crossbar with a free-kick in the

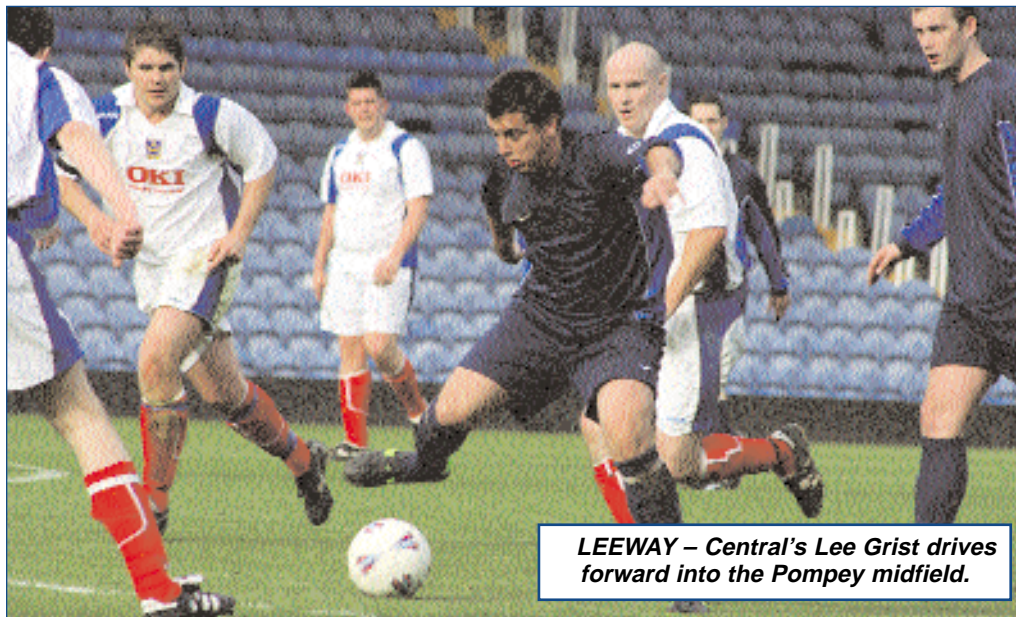
80th minute, but it was left to Robinson to deliver the hammer blow with a fourth goal moments later.

After good team passing out of defence, Ford found space down the left flank and crossed for the onrushing Robinson to smash home from eight yards.

Following the match Assistant Chief Constable John Campbell gave a short speech to remember both John Davies and James Drew. In an emotional exchange, James's mother received a winner's medal on his behalf.

ACC Campbell then presented the James Drew Trophy to man of the match Mark Robinson before handing out medals to both teams and the John Davies Cup to Central skipper Stu Turner.

Competition organiser DC Gary Steward from Shirley CID would like to thank Portsmouth FC for their hospitality and also the children of Whiteley Juniors FC who were guests at the match and played out a penalty competition at half-time.



LEEWAY - Central's Lee Grist drives forward into the Pompey midfield.

Squash team pip opposition to title

IN MARCH the Hampshire Constabulary Police Squash section travelled to Brighton to compete in the Regional Team Competition.

With a team consisting of both new and well-known faces, expectations were high the force could retain the trophy for the fifth consecutive year.

The first match was against a strong Sussex contingent playing on their home courts.

However, the constabulary's Neil Piper and Ben Thomas won their matches without dropping a game.

Ian Chislett-Bruce and Neil Moore then took to the courts only to be beaten by their Sussex opponents.

This left Tony Rowlinson to play a tremendous match and give the Hampshire side a win-

ning start.

The second round was against Kent who again brought with them an experienced team.

Neil Piper and Ben continued in their winning ways and Tony played well to beat his Kent counterpart.

With the tie already won, Ian was narrowly beaten and Neil Moore was on his way to victory when he was forced to retire from the tournament.

In the last tie Hampshire were drawn against Thames Valley Police who could only turn out with three fit players.

This allowed Tony Rowlinson and Neil Moore a deserved rest with Ben, Ian and Neil Piper completing a clean sweep of wins and retaining the South East Regional Police Trophy once again.

Snowdonia 7 climb

ENTRIES are now open for this year's Snowdonia 7 climb, on August 15.

The team fell race is an annual event open to serving members of the UK police forces.

The 22-mile course takes in seven of the highest mountain peaks located in the Snowdonia National Park, traversing an ascent of 8,000ft.

Teams of four run together over some of Wales' most stunning mountain terrain.

The popular endurance test has been over-subscribed in recent years, so those who plan to participate are being advised to book early by the

event organiser, Inspector Dave Owens from North Wales Police.

The cost is £80 per team, payable by cheque to NWP Sports Association (Snowdonia 7).

Entries must be received by August 7, and only those received before July 17 will qualify for a T-shirt.

This year's challenge is to better the record-breaking North Wales Police time of five hours and five minutes.

Further information is available at www.snowdonia7.co.uk or from Insp Owens on 01745 539502.

Sell Out



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BRETON BREAKS. Caravan holidays on Brittany's southern coast. 2 Caravans available, fully equipped with private decking's. Available from Easter through Halloween. WWW.BRETONBREAKS.CO.UK or 02392 710429

BLUELAMPTRAVEL.COM - website designed specifically for holiday rental homes for Law Enforcement Staff in the UK, USA and Canada. Mark Rendell - Sussex www.bluelamptravel.com

WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA - Stylish Victorian cottage, 2 beds, period features. 5 mins walk to Quayside shops and beach. Visit norfolkdreams.com or tel 07976 720022

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HOLIDAY APARTMENT - Oroclini Cyprus. Award-winning one-bedroom luxury apartment sleeps four, fully equipped, village location, 3km from Larnaca Bay Lift, pool, jacuzzi, air con. Les on 02392 326933

SIDMOUTH DEVON Thimble cottage holiday accommodation, sleeps 4, 10 minutes from beach/town, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, quiet area - sorry, no pets. Parry 01395 516111

TENERIFE. Los Christianos - one and two bed well equipped, good quality apartments. Sleep up to six. Close to all amenities. Tel Diane 0034 6299 66760 or e-mail deedee1512@hotmail.com

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breaks. Tel 01983 730667 www.whitwellstation.co.uk

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FLORIDA - close to Disney World - luxurious villa on gated estate. 4 double bedrooms (2 en-suite), 3 bathrooms, 2 living rooms, 30ft pool with extended deck and privacy hedging, well equipped and maintained. 6 TV's, PS2 etc. 01446 760704 www.roach-rooke.co.uk



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direct dial number should be provided with your contact details. Please do not include personal contact details you do not wish to see in print. Any queries regarding the Sell Out page should be referred to: Frontline Admin, Media and Corporate Communications, Hampshire Constabulary HQ, Romsey Road, Winchester, Hampshire, SO22 5DB. Alternatively call 01962 871057 or send an email to the address above.

MECHANIC offering all servicing and repairs, MOTs and Valeting. Courtesy car available. 999 Discounts. For all enquiries call 01329 830492 Mon-Fri. PINES SERVICE CENTRE, 1 Southwick Road, Wickham

DRIVING LESSONS - Discounts for police staff/families. Covering Totton and surrounding areas, visit www.diamondrive.co.uk for more details or call 0800 09214411. Russ Baker.

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GARDEN Maintenance & Design Fully insured services including grass cutting, hedge trimming, border care, hanging baskets /patio tubs replanted Contact Mark (retired officer) on: 023 80253929 or 07795512244 mark.r.cooper@virgin.net



WANTED: Secure lock-up garage in the Southampton, Eastleigh area to house an historic police vehicle - reference available, also "corker" crash helmet (large size) as worn on 'Heartbeat' Tel: 02380 602046

POLICE BADGES: Southampton, Hants and Isle of Wight. Inspectors and PCs cap badges of pre-amalgamation era. Also Southampton helmet plates. Bob Kendall 02380 779047

THE HAMPSHIRE Police Male Voice Choir practice takes place Wednesdays 7pm - 9.30pm at the Parish Rooms, Sarisbury Green. New members welcome. Call Brian Wareham on 07771 724421 or Geoff Culbertson on 07971 783660

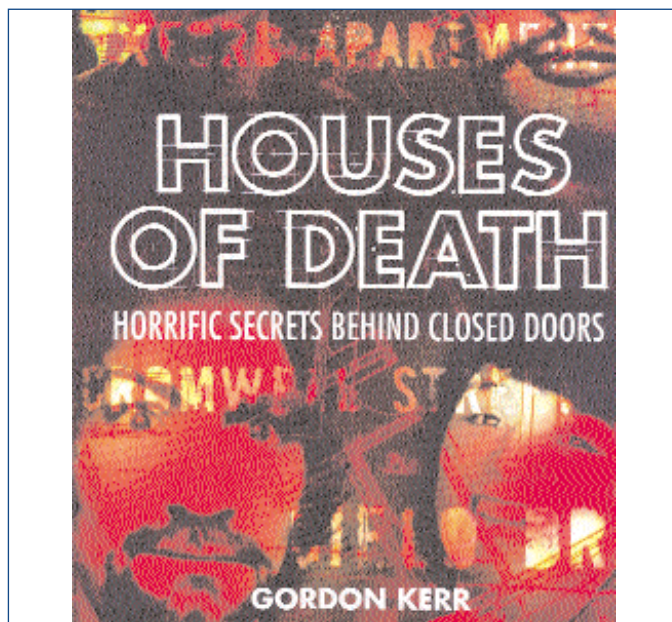


TOM TOM (GB) ONE Sat Nav for sale with car charger and windscreen mount. Plus instruction booklet etc. (sorry no original box though) £50 Tel 01460-64411 or Mobile 07773452828.

SUDOKU PRIZE PUZZLE 147

THIS month we have a special Sudoku Prize Puzzle.

Many of them are no longer there, demolished following the horrific incidents that took place within their walls, as if to expunge them forever. Then there are the houses that are reluctant to let go of their secrets; where the victims and perpetrators of the horrific crimes they hosted still live out the horror that befell them, and can be seen walking the corridors at night or heard screaming endlessly as they relive their terror, again and again. They are the *Houses of Death*. To solve the puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes. Send completed entries to Sudoku Prize Puzzle, *Frontline*, Media and Corporate Communications, Hampshire Constabulary HQ, Romsey Road, Winchester, Hampshire, SO22 5DB. Closing date June 19, 2009. The solution to puzzle 147 will appear in edition 148 of *Frontline* along with a new puzzle for Sudoku fans. The winner of puzzle 146 was Mick Truan, from Whitechurch, who wins the book *Crime Investigation*.



	7		5		8			
	9							
3		2	1					9
7		6						8
			4		5			
5						9		4
	3				2	5		7
							2	
			6		4		3	

Shown below are the answers to Sudoku Prize Puzzle 146

9	7	5	2	8	1	3	4	6
4	1	6	9	7	3	2	5	8
2	8	3	4	5	6	7	9	1
5	2	1	3	9	8	6	7	4
3	6	7	5	1	4	9	8	2
8	4	9	7	6	2	5	1	3
7	3	2	1	4	5	8	6	9
1	5	8	6	2	9	4	3	7
6	9	4	8	3	7	1	2	5

Prize Crossword no. 147



FRONTLINE is offering the sender of the first all-correct crossword entry to be drawn from the hat a £25 gift voucher to spend at John Lewis or Waitrose stores throughout the UK courtesy of WestQuay shopping centre in Southampton.

You can also spend the voucher online at johnlewis.com and ocado.com.

Send completed entries to Prize Crossword, *Frontline*, Media and Corporate Communications, Hampshire Constabulary HQ, Romsey Road, Winchester, Hampshire, SO22 5DB. Closing date June 19, 2009. The winner of crossword puzzle 146 was Cliff Standen, SEO Eastleigh.

1		2			3	4		5		6		7
8					9							
				10								
11												
												12
13							14			15		
						16						
	17	18										
19												
20										21		
22											23	

ACROSS

1. African republic on the Gulf of Guinea whose capital is Lomé (4)
3. Brownish-grey Old World warbler the male of which has a black crown (8)
8. Island off the west coast of Scotland: site of St. Columba's monastery (4)
9. In architecture, a dome that has a point at the top (8)
11. 1353 work by the Italian writer Boccaccio (3,9)
13. James, Best Actor Oscar-winner for *Yankee Doodle Dandy* (6)
14. In Greek mythology, a sea monster who drowned sailors navigating the Straits of Messina (6)
17. 1985 James Bond film featuring Christopher Walken (1,4,2,1,4)
20. Southern African plant also called the calla (4,4)
21. Mr. Preminger, film director/actor whose works included 1960's *Exodus* (4)
22. 1969 rock festival featuring 'The Rolling Stones' at which an audience member was murdered (8)
23. Soft creamy white cheese named after a region in N. France (4)

DOWN

1. Set of three pictures or panels used as an altarpiece (8)
2. Araliaceous plant whose forked root is used medicinally in China (7)
4. In the Roman Catholic Church, feast day on August 1 (6)
5. Georges, French statesman who negotiated the Treaty of Versailles (10)
6. Capital of Egypt (5)
7. 1991 novel by Jilly Cooper (4)
10. Division of the vertebrate brain situated in man above the medulla oblongata (10)
12. In Greek mythology, the Muse of epic poetry (8)
15. Spear with three or more prongs for spearing fish (7)
16. Joseph, general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union 1922-53 (6)
18. Pole ---, Olympic event won in 1992 by Maksim Tarassov (5)
19. Island of Indonesia whose chief towns include Jakarta (4)

SOLUTIONS TO 146

- Across: 1 The Wrong Box; 9 Andorra; 10 Gutta; 11 Idaho; 12 Gelding; 13 Alaska; 15 Kanhai; 18 Cedilla; 20 Chang; 22 Tango; 23 Echidna; 24 Peter Allis.
Down: 2 Hedda; 3 Warlock; 4 Orange; 5 Gogol; 6 Ostrich; 7 Vatican City; 8 Laughing gas; 14 Andante; 16 Alcohol; 17 Camera; 19 Leone; 21 Andes.

Crossword scribble pad

Past Times

by Clifford Williams

Visit the Hampshire Constabulary History Society website:

www.hampshireconstabularyhistory.org.uk/



Working at the coalface

OUR photograph shows Detective Constable Frederick Clayton working undercover dressed as a docker.

DC Clayton served in the Southampton Police Force from 1920-1951.

In 1986 his sons donated to the constabulary history society scrapbooks of cuttings and photographs compiled by their father.

In 1946 DC Clayton received a commendation for his persistent and skilful conduct of complicated enquiries in the case of Frederick Garey Matson de Laurier, who was sentenced to three years penal servitude for charges relating to pretending to be a medical practitioner.

De Laurier's real name was Garnet Matson.

He managed to work as a surgeon commander on at least five ocean-going liners, with a salary of £42 a month, before his deception was discovered.

On October 17, 1951 the *Southern Daily Echo* described DC Clayton as 'The Master of Disguise' and went on to report

that throughout his 22 years in CID he had always been chosen for undercover duties.

'Possessed of a natural gift for acting, a whimsical sense of humour and an un-policeman-like appearance, he has been so successful in his disguise that even his police colleagues have been deceived.'

Detective Chief Superintendent Gibbons described Fred as "the best detective that he ever worked with".

Going back to the very earliest days of the Hampshire Constabulary (formed in December 1839), it is interesting to read letters to the *Hampshire Chronicle* which often comment on the effectiveness or otherwise of the 'rural police'.

One letter of August 10, 1840 spoke about the insufficient number of officers and questioned whether 'a single man can overlook with effect a space of ten miles by four, comprising half a dozen parishes and containing between 30 and 40 public houses?'

A letter of October 25, 1841

commented on the inefficiency of the police in dealing with crimes in Petersfield.

'Nightly depredations are committed at Petersfield, such as taking off shutters, removing stack pipes, breaking windows etc, none of which have hitherto been detected by the Rural Police.'

Reading such letters reminds me that facing demands excessive to our capacity today was also an issue in the earlier days of policing, and that the 'thin blue line' was as evident in the 1840s as it is today.

In issue 146 of *Frontline* I asked our readers if anyone

could identify two of the scenes of crime officers in the featured photo from the 1960s. Thanks go to Sandi Ellis, IT Services, and retired Portsmouth City Police officer and Hampshire Constabulary police staff member Maurice Baily, who are in agreement with each other that the officer standing second from left is Ronald Skeates (joined Portsmouth City Police 24/01/53 and promoted to sergeant 11/12/65), while the officer stood centre is John Hawtin (joined Portsmouth City Police 05/09/39, promoted to sergeant 06/12/52 and to inspector 08/03/58).



Kat sitting pretty for Olympic dream

by Aaron Brown

SHE'S the hottest property in British duathlon and triathlon right now, and after her stunning achievement in being selected for the GB Elite Squad the force's DC Kat Grimmett is edging ever closer to participating in the London 2012 Olympics - not bad for someone who started competing seriously in only August last year.

Having previously guaranteed her place to represent team GB for her age group in the forthcoming European and World championships, in March Kat demolished the field to win the Elite National Duathlon Championships in Loughborough, beating the runner-up - current double age group world champion Emma Dews - by more than a minute and collecting a cheque for £1,000.

Days later Kat received the call she'd been dreaming of - a member of British Triathlon telling her she'd made the GB Elite Women's Senior Squad which means she is now a professional athlete.

"I couldn't believe it!" exclaimed Kat.

"The last year has just been a whirlwind experience and to achieve so much in so little time is an incredible feeling."

Kat, who works in Shirley, first started training in the two disciplines around seven years ago. Duathlon, the 33 year old's spe-

ciality, comprises a running leg followed by a cycling leg and then another running leg, while triathlon is a race over three different distances in swimming, cycling and running.

Representing Great Britain in the Police European Championships in 2010 is Kat's reward for her initial success.

And thanks to three wins out of three in the National Duathlon Ranking Series, she has also qualified for the 2009 International Triathlon Union Classic Distance Duathlon European and World Championships.



DC Kat Grimmett

Frontline caught up with Kat to learn a little more about her and discover the secrets of her success.

Where are you originally from? Where do you live?

I grew up in Poole in Dorset and now live in the New Forest area.

Tell us about your sports background and how you got involved in racing.

I've always been sporty since I was a child and for many years I used to dance. I also ran cross-country and long distance at school. I got hooked on running for enjoyment in my early 20s. Later I met a police colleague who competed in triathlon and got inspiration from her to start training in all disciplines. My husband then encouraged me to enter competitions in 2008 as he thought my times were good.

Which club do you run for?

I'm a member of Hants Police Tri Club, run by PC Mark Lawrence.

What requirements do you need to train and perform?

I had to purchase a new bike for the elite race, and a Bournemouth company helped me fund this. Another company sends me sports supplements; these are an essential part of my daily nutrition as they help keep me healthy. Now that I've made the elite squad I'd really like to work part-time to give me the chance to train at the high level I will be competing at, which will be against other women who do the sport for a living. Financially, I can only dream of getting help in this area.

You have some big races coming up. When and where are these taking place?

By winning the age group (30-34) National Ranking series I've



KATCH ME IF YOU CAN - DC Grimmett at full throttle.

qualified to represent GB in the ITU Classic Distance Duathlon European and World Championships. The European Championships are being held in Budapest on May 24 and the World Championships are being held in the USA in September. I'll be competing in the elite team for the European Championships, and I'll also be considered for the elite team for the World Championships which will be decided in August.

How do you self-motivate?

I have lots of energy and need to burn it off on a daily basis. At the moment I train for around 20 to 22 hours a week. I get up around 6am every day to train and living this way has become a way of life for me. I love being outside and honestly love training every day. I've always done my own thing when it comes to training and sometimes my husband joins me.

Have you been lucky with injuries?

Please don't mention that word. Touching wood, no problems.

What would you consider as your greatest achievement in

sport to date?

Beating current double age group world champion Emma Dews, considering I've just been doing my own training with no coaching or guidance.

You seem to focus mainly on duathlons. What about triathlons?

I competed in the Police National Olympic distance triathlon in September 2008 and won this and will be representing Police Sport UK in both triathlon and duathlon. I've booked my place for a few triathlons for the forthcoming season and will wait to see how I get on. Running is my strongest discipline and it appears to be helping me well in the duathlon world.

Which duathlete or triathlete in the world do you most admire and why?

It has to be reigning Iron Man World Champion Chrissie Wellington. I find it inspiring for anybody to complete an Ironman triathlon, but to beat all other women - and most men - so convincingly in such a gruelling race is just incredible. I can identify with her, too, as she is a self-

taught athlete and entered races to see how she would get on. I also admire her work in promoting sport.

If you could choose any race to win which would one would it be and why?

It would have to be the races this year for the European and World Championships for GB, I would be so proud. Competing at this level has given me a taste of the potential I may actually have to be at the 2012 London Olympics.

What's the most important piece of advice you would give to someone who's just starting out in triathlon or duathlon?

Enjoy training and make sure you progress steadily to prevent injury. Speak to the living and local legends that have been doing the sport for years - many work in the police force. Read up on advice from the experts on training programmes and everything else you need to know. Make sure you get fitted properly for any bikes you purchase using reputable companies.

phil williams advert

GB police ladies team on top form



STICKING POINT - The force's Lucy Fawcett (black shirt, front) challenges while Jo Faulkner looks on.

THE British police ladies hockey team continued to match the best during a successful weekend against regional, national and international opposition.

The squad played five fixtures

over the weekend of April 24-26 at the army school of hockey against the civil service, combined services, England and Wales. Hampshire's representatives in the squad were coach,

Chief Inspector Cleaven Faulkner, Sgt Jo Faulkner and PC Lucy Fawcett.

The fixtures were played in excellent conditions with the police side winning two, drawing two and suffering one defeat at the hands of a dominant England side. This was the first time the police side had played Wales and thumped them with a 9-0 thrashing. It was always considered that the England and combined services fixtures would present the harder task with both sides showing good recent form. The match against the combined services saw the Julia Morris trophy shared for the year with the sides returning a 1-1 draw. The fixture against England was a great game to watch other than seeing the British police side lose 2-0 to a very good opposition.

Jo Faulkner and Lucy Fawcett featured in all fixtures with Lucy scoring against both Wales and the combined services.

Coach Cleaven Faulkner said: "Our national squad have produced yet another superb set of performances against strong opposition. To play five games in a weekend and gain such a good set of results is a tribute to both their level of fitness and ability to work together as a team."