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Picture by Bill Morris

After 28 years..... Brian is reunited with his Goddess

DURING the 1977-78 fire strike, RAF police officer Brian Burgess drove a Green Goddess fire engine. Now a security officer at GMP HQ, Brian has become the proud owner of that same vehicle. He tracked it down and bought it for £3,000 after the Government decided to sell the engines as surplus.

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MONEY LAUNDERERS MUST PAY £300,000

Latest success
for financial
detectives

IT began as an investigation into cannabis production.

It ended with two men having to forfeit £300,000 of their criminal gains after being convicted of money laundering.

The court order last month was the latest success under the Proceeds of Crime Act for GMP's Economic Crime Section.

Last year, the Force's financial detectives won orders relieving career criminals of more than £4 million in cash and assets.

The most recent ruling, involving a larger-than-average sum in such cases, followed the discovery of cannabis plants being grown by Philip Ogden, 37, at his home in Rochdale.

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GMP is to get a new £4.2 million helicopter, the Police Authority said last month. It is expected to be delivered next year

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THE VIEW FROM THE TOP

EVERY man and woman who works for us has a vital role to play in the future of the Force. That is why I want to hear what you think and feel about the future direction of GMP as we plan for 'fighting crime, protecting people' between now and 2010.

The destination, values and actions we have developed so far are now out across GMP for your views, comments and thoughts.

The draft of 'Charting the Way' (see *centre pages*) sets out the initial thoughts of myself and the Command Team about how we can move forward and improve

our performance on behalf of the public.

However, I believe it is only by harnessing the commitment and expertise of yourselves that we can aim even higher in terms of a world-class policing service for the people and communities of Greater Manchester.

That is why your participation in this discussion is so essential. You are the lifeblood of GMP and our future plans must reflect what you believe is important.

We all joined the police service to make a difference – to serve the public, enforce the law and solve the problems which can blight the lives of ordinary people. In GMP,

we have come a long way already and I thank you all for that.

But we know that there is more work to be done if law-abiding citizens are to be able to go about their daily lives without fear of being victims of crime.

This work on 'Charting the Way' will focus our attention on the path ahead and allow us to set ourselves challenges which I know we will tackle with enthusiasm and dedication. Please take any opportunity offered to you over the next few weeks to make your voice heard in this discussion.

Michael J. Todd

Money launderers - from Page 1

Also found was a stack of financial documentation and notepads containing the identity details of dozens of people.

Ogden worked for an engineering firm and also doubled as a restaurant waiter, giving him access to customers' credit card information.

In court, he pleaded guilty to producing a controlled drug and was given 100 hours' community service.

But by then, GMP's Financial Investigation Unit had started to look at his documents and notebooks.

Det Con Robert Warburton said Ogden was found to have more than £100,000 in a bank account.

Immediately after his arrest, he switched it to the account of a friend, Simon Birchall, 40.

Once the sum cleared through Birchall's account, it was withdrawn in cash.

Following this discovery, restraint orders preventing both men from disposing of their assets were obtained at Manchester Crown Court.

A money laundering investigation found Ogden had used the identity details jotted down in his notepads to obtain credit cards from financial institutions. Any details he didn't know he simply made up.

Each card was used until fraud was discovered. Then use of the cards would stop.

Det Con Warburton said: "The

amount of fraud committed on the cards was substantial. Barclays, for instance, lost more than £60,000."

Last year, Ogden was convicted of money laundering and conspiracy to defraud and was jailed for 32 months. Birchall got nine months for money laundering.

Det Con Warburton said a confiscation investigation under the Proceeds of Crime Act found that Ogden had opened numerous bank and investment accounts in his own name through which he had laundered the proceeds of his criminality.

"He was also found to have bought properties in the UK and Spain," the detective said.

"A letter of request was sent to the Spanish authorities for inquiries to be carried out in Spain.

"This led to the discovery that following his arrest for producing a controlled drug, he had put the property on the Costa Blanca in his parents' names."

At a confiscation hearing at Minshull Street Crown Court in Manchester, Ogden was found to have benefited from his criminality by £245,265.

He has to hand over that amount in full within six months or serve three years in default.

"It will involve him having to realise all his assets, including the property in Spain," Det Con Warburton said.

Birchall has to pay £50,945 in six months or serve 18 months.



Photo: Chris Oldham

HIGH NOTE: More than £1,000 was raised for the children's charity, *When You Wish Upon a Star*, with a concert in Manchester Town Hall in April by the GMP Band and the Army's King's Division Band. The GMP Band has recorded a 14-track CD, including three big band swing numbers, costing £10. Director of Music PC Geoff Williams can be contacted on extension 64747 in the Casualty Reduction Unit at Eccles.

Winning web

THE GMP website has won a second Award of Excellence from the British Association of Communicators in Business.

The site, which gets more than 40,000 visitors a week, received a similar accolade five years ago.

This time, the judges took into account a wide range of changes that have been made to the site.

They described it as 'extremely busy' with 'well-organised content, open, approachable and community-focused.'

Web Manager Mark Cookson said: "The site is increasingly becoming the place to go for people wanting information

about GMP.

"We are constantly developing the way we meet that increasing demand.

"Work currently under way involves looking at accreditation from the Royal National Institute of the Blind, providing video and audio clips and enhancing the way the site delivers information direct to the media."

brief

Reporter: Derek Hornby Tel: 0161 856 2238

Photographers: Chris Oldham and Bill Morris: Tel: 0161 856 2777

Picture Desk: Lisa Marks Tel: 0161 856 2279
Items for publication in Brief can be e-mailed to Derek Hornby/HQ/GMP (internal) or derek.hornby@gmp.police.uk (external)

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From the Brief files

30 years ago

SGT John Tomlinson was among the first officers in the country to patrol a motorway (the old Preston by-pass, which opened in 1958). When he retired, he took with him part of the road surface he'd driven over for 17 years. His memento was a piece of Tarmac from Barton Bridge on the M63. Colleagues had it mounted and inscribed.

20 years ago

FOUR hundred officers from six forces took part in the largest mock public order demonstration ever staged in the Greater Manchester area. A disused power station in Wigan was the scene of Operation Orchid. The exercise proved so realistic that eight officers – all of them from GMP – needed hospital treatment.

10 years ago

A YEAR after the IRA bombing of Manchester, more than 1,000 people, including officers and staff who were on duty on the day, attended a cathedral service. They lit 386 candles to symbolise the number of crippled businesses helped by the Lord Mayor's fund. The bomb damaged 700 buildings at a cost of £500 million.

PARTNERS IN ARMS: Sgt Mike Keyworth (centre) with Tactical Firearms Unit colleagues Insp Andy Holmes (left) and Insp Tony Hughes.



BRIGHT SPARK: A burglar who broke into a sports club in Aachen, Germany, at 3am turned on the floodlights so that he could see in the dark. He also managed to switch on the football pitch sprinkler system. He was arrested after a patrolling caretaker called the police.

HOT DOGS: A lorry driver set fire to his cab after cooking sausages while making a delivery. He was driving in Saxony when a cooking hob beside him toppled over. Police found he was three times over the drink-drive limit.

WATER BOBBIES: Police fished £121,600 in cash out of a Tokyo river. They raked in 270 soggy 100-yen notes, the country's biggest denomination, with fishing rods and their bare hands.

CALLING CARD: A burglar used his credit card to prise open a neighbour's door, only to have the card snap – leaving the piece with his name on stuck inside. Police in Monchengladbach, Germany, found the other half on the burglar's kitchen table when they went round to his house.

RUN-IN: A thief who tried and failed to grab a sports bag in a tug-of-war with a French tourist chased after him...right into a police station in Amsterdam. When it dawned on the 28-year-old thief where he was, he tried to run but was quickly arrested.

PIG SPY: Cattle thieves put rubber boots on two cows to disguise their hoof prints, but as they crept away in the night, a pig wandered after them. Police followed the pig's trotter prints and arrested three men in Burila Mare, Romania.

OUT ON A LIMB: A burglary suspect was caught in Pomona, California, after his artificial leg fell off as he tried to flee.

HORSE POWER: Police in the Bulgarian town of Karnobat have confiscated a horse after it was used in transporting stolen wood. They said the anti-crime legislation normally applied to motor vehicles used in crimes, but that the horse and cart came under the same rule.

PERSISTENT OFFENDER: An armless, one-legged motorist has been banned or suspended 18 times, according to police in Florida. The man, 40, was arrested for trying to kick an officer with his one good leg after being caught driving without a licence. "I've never seen anyone with 18 suspensions," state prosecutor Michael Halkitis said. "He's been given break after break."

Retired, the firearms officer who shot the Chief Constable

MIKE Keyworth had two claims to fame.

At 55, he reckoned he was the oldest authorised firearms officer in the country.

And in the history of GMP, he will forever be known as the officer who shot Chief Constable Michael Todd with a Taser stun gun.

After speaking at a Police Federation conference in support of wider use of the Taser two years ago, Mr Todd accepted a challenge by the Mail on Sunday – in return for a large donation to charity – to find out what it was like to be shot by one of the 50,000-volt weapons.

With Sgt Keyworth's finger on the trigger, he was hit, knocked down and incapacitated – and the

Mail on Sunday duly paid up to his nominated charity, Victim Support and Witness Service.

The Manchester Evening News and Taser UK also made donations.

Last month, Mike retired from GMP and the Tactical Firearms Unit after a 28-year career.

His retirement led to a third reason for him being remembered, involving shots of a different kind.

To mark his departure, he arranged the Mike Keyworth Golf Classic at Denton Golf Club, which was not only heavily subscribed but also attracted raffle prizes from a wide range of supporters, including firearms-related businesses.

Mike himself chipped in several

hundred pounds from his retirement payment.

The total raised was more than £1,000, which is being divided between St Ann's Hospice at Heald Green, Cheadle, and Willow Wood Hospice, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Insp Andy Holmes, of the TFU, said: "Mike has been involved in charitable work of varying kinds throughout his service and this was yet another measure of his generosity and kindness."

The golf day proved so popular that it may become an annual event.

There are no plans, however, for the Chief Constable to undergo further experience at the wrong end of a Taser.



FLASHBACK: A stunning moment for Chief Constable Michael Todd in 2005.

First in the country

DET Con Peter Boon, of Crime Training, has become the only constable in the country to achieve the top-level status of a Tier 5 national interview adviser.

He and Det Sgt Mark Ryder, of the Major Incident Team, have won the accreditation from the National Investigative Steering Group.

They were among only 10 officers in England and Wales who achieved the status as ACPO-approved national advisers in the recent assessment programme.

It means that in the event of major incidents anywhere in the country, they

can be deployed to advise senior investigating officers and others on interview strategies.

They can also suggest the use of specialist interviewers for witnesses.

Pete and Mark were the only applicants from GMP.



Letters of Appreciation

Send copies of letters or e-mails of thanks and appreciation to Derek Hornby, Brief Office, Chester House, making sure the recipient's full name, not just number, is included. Letters may be edited for reasons of space.

A selection of letters of thanks and appreciation received recently at police stations in Greater Manchester

Safely back home again, the girl an officer saved from human trafficking

I AM a retired West Midlands police officer now living in the Philippines. A friend recently came to Manchester on a six-month visitor's visa and was met by her sponsor.

After three or four days, she realised that the way he was treating her and what he expected of her was not what she had thought.

She was beaten and threatened and then escaped and went to Denton Police Station. **PC Martin Dench** looked after her and got her belongings from the house. She was very scared indeed.

As she had no money with her and just wanted to get back home to the Philippines, **PC Dench** kindly arranged a train ticket and some cash for her to travel to friends in Kent before she flew back home. She arrived here safely and was full of praise for her treatment by **PC Dench** and other officers while in protective custody.

I would like to thank the officer for the time and care he took in dealing with this case of human trafficking. The sponsor had told her she would be expected to 'work' over the six months to repay the

money he had laid out for her travel and it doesn't take much imagination to guess what that work would have been.

I have been in touch with the immigration authorities here to enquire how the man could be barred from travelling to the Philippines in the future, maybe to threaten my friend or find another willing girl.

She has many friends here in the ex-pat community and they all send their heartfelt thanks for your help.

*Simon Walton,
Cebu, Philippines.*

THANKS FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO OUR LIVES

WE have no idea why we became targets for louts who regularly persecuted us by banging on our doors and windows and throwing stones at our home, but we have now been much relieved and reassured by the professional intervention of **PC Arshad Ali**.

He has responded with discretion and sensitivity and kept us informed of his actions and contacts with the anti-social youths who have been making our lives so miserable.

We have had no further damage since his intervention. He has made a positive difference to our lives.

We have also received the support of **PCSOs Sarah Ward** and **Rachel Pressdee** and **Special Constable Andrew Boswell** during our troubles.

They have helped us regain some of our lost confidence in law enforcement and reminded us that we do have the right to live our lives peacefully.

*Mrs B.Y.,
Chadderton.*

HE MADE US THINK

THANKS to **PC Stuart Pizzey** for giving time to talk to our team about personal safety and workplace security. The feedback from colleagues was very positive. The tone was spot-on, neither scare mongering nor blasé and I for one took away knowledge I did not previously have. As a result of the talk, we are reviewing our security provision and looking to send our team on more in-depth courses about understanding body language and how best

to defuse potentially volatile situations.

*Ben Porter,
Visitor Services Team Leader,
Museum of Science and Industry,
Castlefield, Manchester.*

PRISON THREATS

I WOULD like to commend the work of Oldham officers **Sgt Terence Broome** and **PC Linda Barnsley** for their handling of threats against one of our managers. The threats have been longstanding and caused considerable concern to the female manager and her family. The work of the two officers has certainly reassured her and made her feel considerably safer.

*P. P. O'Brien,
Head of Operations,
HMP & YOI Forest Bank.*

SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED

OVER the last few months, I have been a victim of crime. I thought things were getting better, but then my son had his bike stolen. I felt my whole world was crashing around me.

I spoke to **Sgt Damian O'Reilly** and he sent **PC Wesley Bishop** to take details from me. **PC Bishop** was caring and understanding.

I know it is hard to do your job in this area, but the professional officers you have make it a lot safer. Thanks for all the support your officers have shown to me and my family.

*Liz Shaw,
Gorton.*

COMMITMENT

I AM writing to say how much I appreciate the work and support I have received from

PC Andy Middleton. I am aware of how much criticism the police get, so I thought it equally important to express my thanks for all **PC Middleton** has done. He has kept me up to date with his progress and assured me of his commitment to getting to the truth.

*M.H.,
Hulme.*

SECURE FEELING

SINCERE thanks to the Strategic Roads Policing Unit at Birch and in particular **PC Vincent Thirlwall** for being a perfect gentleman in allowing my little girl and me to wait in his vehicle and use his mobile phone after an accident on the M60. The police unit arrived within minutes and cleared and secured the road with minimum delay. I was extremely impressed and hope I never have another such incident. However, I feel secure in the knowledge that the unit is monitoring the local motorways.

*Sally Cohen,
Bury.*

PRAISE WHEN DUE

WALKING home from Timperley village, my handbag was snatched. A woman in a car stopped and immediately phoned the police.

Within minutes, the police were there and went to search for the culprit. I walked the short distance home, and about 30 minutes later, **Sgt Timothy Webb** and **PC Anthony Stanley** knocked on my door. They had not only arrested the suspect, but had got my bag and contents.

The officers were a credit to GMP and I will not forget their kindness. Police get enough

stick when things go wrong and as such they should be praised when they do well.

*Shirley Murphy,
Altrincham*

BEYOND THE CALL

HIRE vehicles supplied by our company were stolen and subsequently recovered, and the incidents were dealt with by **PC John Francis**.

In our opinion, he went beyond the call of duty. He visited our office on a number of occasions to take statements from staff and to discuss matters we could implement to prevent such incidents happening again.

*Barry Stevenson,
Fraud Detection Unit,
Call 24-7 Ltd,
Marple.*

CONFIDENCE RESTORED

I WOULD like to bring to your attention the excellent and professional way two officers dealt with a burglary at my home.

Sgt Duncan Haynes and **Sgt Richard Evans**, who I believe were off duty at the time, managed to challenge four people, arresting one and recovering most of my property. They have restored my confidence in the police service.

*Paul Egan,
Worsley.*

HELP AFTER DEATH

FOLLOWING the death of my sister-in-law in a fire at her flat in Sale, my wife and I made several

visits, culminating in her funeral.

The extent to which members of GMP were willing to assist us with arrangements and to follow up with phone calls was very much appreciated. We would like to make special mention of **Det Sgt John Fox**.

*R. G. Franks,
Stockbridge,
Hampshire.*

TOP NOTE

WE were pleased with the contribution of **PC Laura Dixon (Longsight)** to our *The Law and You* day.

We had arranged the day for our Year 10 students to find out more about the role of police in the community and to work through a court case scenario set around a burglary. Laura not only worked with a group of students on the court case, but also presented a one-hour workshop on the role of the CID.

She held the interest of the students and spoke with authority at a level they could identify with and learn from.

*Nigel Wickham,
Assistant Headteacher,
Failsworth School.*

IN BRIEF.....

NOW that proceedings have come to an end, we would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to all at Rochdale Police Station, with a special mention for **Det Insp Dave Massey** and his team, **Det Sgt Jared Sudworth** and **PC Kat Fitzsimons** for their dedication in bringing the killers to justice.

*P. Marsh,
Rochdale.*

MAY I thank Det Con Lucy Shaw (Tameside) and everyone else involved in my case. I cannot stress enough my appreciation for all the hard work and determination of the Child Protection Unit.

T.R.

Llandudno.

WHEN my car was about to catch fire outside Manchester Airport, Traffic Wardens Gerard Hitchen, Paul Graham and Michael Scullion and PC Mark Flanagan were wonderful, supportive and not at all patronising!

Liz Harris,

Wilmslow.

CONCERNED about my brother who had been due to visit us, I was reassured by the calm approach of your control room team. They were also patient when I rang several times for an update. Officers found my brother safe and well.

Val Turner,

Worcester.

AS ever, PC Mike Lord (Events Team, Bootle Street) was extremely helpful with assistance and advice for our annual service of dedication march to Manchester Cathedral.

S. T. Morris,

Officer Commanding,

Air Training Corps,

East Cheshire & South Mcr.

AFTER I was attacked in a local pub, one of the officers on the scene was PC Jacob Hunt. It was the first time I'd had dealings with GMP and I couldn't have been more impressed.

Miss A.R.,

Benchill.

ON behalf of the judiciary, staff and security team, I am putting on record our appreciation of our court police officer, PC Steve Worrall, over the past 12 months, during which he has had to deal with a wide variety of problems.

T. J. Anderson,

Acting Court Manager,

Bolton Combined Court Centre.

MY bicycle was stolen from outside Blockbusters in Chorlton and I held out no hope for its recovery, but thanks to PC Steve LeCheminant, I've got it back.

Sian Phillips, Chorlton.

Me and my Goddess

How ex-RAF police officer Brian acquired the historic vehicle that he drove during the 1970s fire strike

By Derek Hornby

SHE is a 53-year-old heavyweight and extremely thirsty. But after 28 years apart, Brian Burgess is pleased that she is sharing his life once again.

They first met during the firemen's strike of 1977-78 when Brian was in the RAF police. He drove the Green Goddess fire engine answering emergency calls in Kent.

In 2005, the Government decided to dispose of its fleet of more than 1,000 Bedford RLHZ Emergency Pumps, as the Goddesses are officially known.

New arrangements put in place since the last fire strike in 2002 mean that military crews should have access to a reserve of modern red fire engines in the

event of future industrial action.

Brian, who is now a security officer at GMP Headquarters, made inquiries about buying his old engine, PGW 163, when he heard that Witham Specialist Vehicles, of Grantham, Lincolnshire, were to auction a batch of the engines for the Ministry of Defence.

Unfortunately, PGW 163 wasn't among them, but last year, she finally turned up at Withams.

Brian received a call from the firm and agreed a price of £3,000. "After 28 years of separation, I was reunited with my old machine," he said.

Back in mint condition

Since buying the engine, Brian has worked steadily to return her



THEN: Brian Burgess (centre) with his RAF colleagues and their Green Goddess, which now belongs to Brian.

to the mint condition she was in while operated by the RAF at Bromley in January 1978.

The five-litre Goddess, which is garaged at a transport yard in Timperley, weighs more than five tons and does barely nine miles to the gallon.

"But as an historic vehicle, she's exempt from road tax and doesn't need an MOT because she's pre-1960," said Brian.

He and his wife take PGW 163

to rallies and meetings of vintage vehicles and steam engines – and there is a network of Green Goddess owners who keep in touch.

Brian, from South London, was a teenage cadet in the City of London Police before joining the RAF because he wanted to travel the world. He later worked in security at Manchester Airport and joined GMP last year.



NOW: Back at the wheel of the vehicle he drove on fire calls in 1978

On behalf of a fellow Green Goddess owner, Scottish police officer James Miller, Brian Burgess is asking if anyone in GMP has any information – or photographs – of a Green Goddess that was stationed at Park Lane Police Station, Salford, during the last fire strike in 2002.

James is compiling a service history of his Goddess and is particularly keen to obtain any photos.

Soldiers from the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, predecessor of the King's Regiment, crewed Mr Miller's engine during the strike.

Anyone who can help can contact Brian Burgess via the reception desk at Chester House on extension 61130.

A NEW HELICOPTER IS ON THE WAY

GMP is to get a new helicopter.

A £4.2 million updated replacement for the Force's existing MD902 Explorer has been approved by Greater Manchester Police Authority and is due to be delivered next year.

The current helicopter – the Force's second – has been flying since June 2001.

It flies an average of 1,200 hours a year and up to last month had completed 6,300 hours of service.

Last summer, it clocked up 2,365 missions.

They included 771 offender searches, 260 vehicle pursuits

and 154 searches for people missing from home.

The purchase of the new aircraft is being helped by a grant of £1.3 million from the Home Office.

GMP will also receive a similar amount for trading in the old model.

A five-year service agreement will ensure a maintenance cost saving of £500,000.

ASSET

Police Authority chairman Derek Osbaldestin said: "The existing helicopter is a fantastic

asset and plays a key role in reducing crime and providing public reassurance.

"By the end of next year, it will have accrued 8,000 flying hours, which is the optimum time to replace it before unscheduled maintenance costs start to rise.

"Taking advantage of the Home Office grant makes the acquisition extremely cost effective.

"The Authority is pleased to approve the purchase since it makes good financial sense and will assist in further improving policing services

for the people of Greater Manchester."

Deputy Chief Constable Dave Whatton said: "Digital imagery and airwave technology have changed dramatically over the past few years, and this equipment needs to be updated in order to police Greater Manchester effectively.

"The new helicopter will benefit GMP by reducing overall running costs and giving us an operationally more effective aircraft."

The order is being placed with helicopter manufacturer MDHI in Arizona.

'Thankfully, no one thinks too much these days about an officer's gender'

Twenty years ago, Margaret Gornall achieved a place in GMP history. She became the first female officer to be promoted to chief superintendent and to take command of a division (the former 'C' Division, based at Grey Mare Lane). This year, another milestone was reached when GMP appointed its first female assistant chief constable, Justine Curran. Last month, Brief described the changing role of women in policing over the years. Now living in Suffolk with her husband Peter (he was also a senior GMP officer), Margaret, who retired in 1994, recalls how doors were once closed to women officers and pays tribute to the pioneers who campaigned for equality with their male colleagues.

IT was in 1914 when women police officers were first seen on the streets of Britain. While their presence was regarded as part of the war effort, without doubt they laid the foundation for the future of women in the police service.

Not having the power of arrest, they were sent to cities where large numbers of women were working in munitions factories.

The rationale behind their appointment was to ensure that 'public decency was upheld.'

They performed sterling work, with uniforms no more than a mix and match of helmets, ill-fitting jackets and oversized boots.

The women were all daughters of the wealthy with a strong sense of social justice, not only towards protecting women and children, but in the suffragette movement.

Emily Pankhurst and her contemporaries were causing mayhem in endeavours to secure the rights of women, and a significant number of Women Police Volunteers were themselves members of the suffragette movement, which was to be their eventual downfall.

Male officers were paid 10% more than women officers

WHEN the war ended, many Women Police Volunteers ceased to exist, but the Metropolitan Police (where most had been recruited) sought to rationalise their appointment and Sir Gerald McCready, the Commissioner, agreed to appoint 21 women constables.

Without exception, all remaining members of the Women Police Volunteers applied.

But despite their experience, their link to the suffragette movement was against them and Sir Gerald refused to

allow their appointment.

Though the skills and abilities of existing officers were lost, the appointment of 21 women not linked to the suffragette movement formed the cornerstone in the history of women officers. More importantly, they were given the power of arrest. Other watch committees followed suit and a small number of female officers were appointed in other large forces.

Legislation helped. The 1933 Children and Young Persons Act and the social conditions of the time all lent themselves to an increase in the number of women in the police service.

NANCY Astor, the first woman to take a seat in the House of Commons, often spoke in favour of appointing more women – and by 1939, every police force in the country had a complement of female officers.

Their establishment, however, was separate from the number of male officers and this continued until the early 1970s.

The size of the establishment of women officers determined the number of ranks which could be held. The larger forces had a chief superintendent, smaller forces a superintendent.

They concentrated mainly on offences committed by or towards women and children, working closely with social agencies.

Much of their time was taken up with missing person cases, care proceedings following abuse, neglect or indecency offences and 'problem families.'

The women and their supervisors provided a valuable service to the public and within the police service itself.

Parents, social agencies and colleagues had no problem in knowing where to obtain help.

AROUND this time, there was a pay differential and women officers received only 90 per cent of a male officer's pay.

However, running parallel with

an increase in the number of women joining the police was a change in social attitudes.

Women in all professions were seeking equality in pay, promotion and the variety of their work.

The police service was no different. Women sought the right to undertake the same types of duty as their male colleagues and to become integrated.

Already, women officers had been admitted to a variety of departments. Traffic, mounted unit, CID, vice squad and other sections all saw the appointment of women officers.

The advent of the Equal Pay Act concentrated the minds of senior officers since the establishment of women was incorporated in the overall establishment of each police force. It was, therefore, both financially and socially necessary for women to become fully integrated, and Women Police Departments were disbanded.

Some departments were renamed with male colleagues being admitted. They brought a new perspective to work that was previously the preserve of women and their presence was welcomed.

THE Equal Opportunities Act of 1975 was hailed as a triumph for all working women, and 30 years on, it is perhaps difficult to appreciate the apprehensions of both male and female officers when the legislation was introduced.

Traditional attitudes about women in the workplace were at first hard to dislodge.

The success of women is reflected at every level of policing

Looking back, I believe the women officers in Greater Manchester adapted well, doors were opened and most, if not all, had no difficulty in being accepted.



Margaret Gornall, pictured shortly before she retired 13 years ago.

By the late 1970s, opportunities were available to all, and no branch of the service was left unattainable.

There have, of course, been some notable civil cases involving the police service and equal opportunities. Whatever we think of the individuals involved, their sense of injustice, whether rightly perceived or not, has helped forces to examine their policies and procedures to ensure compliance with legislation. This all assisted with integration.

While it is important to remember how our future was shaped, it is the dedication and commitment of today's officers, male and female, which matter.

Thankfully, social change means no one thinks too much about the gender of an officer. What's important is their ability to carry out the task in hand and the way they relate to the public and colleagues.

Women officers are very much an integral part of the police service.

Their success is reflected in every police force and at every level.

And in particular, the recent

appointment in GMP of the first female ACC is testimony itself to the maxim 'appointment on merit.'

HAVING joined Manchester and Salford Police from Cheshire Constabulary in 1973, the year before the creation of GMP, I can't recall the names of the many women officers who pioneered relentlessly for improvements in the conditions of service for women.

These same women were seen in every police force, and it was they who helped shape the future of policing for women, both upon amalgamation of forces and following the introduction of equal opportunities legislation.

Nellie Bohanna, Marie Flint and Milly Dow are just some of those who played an important part within GMP.

Many were at the end of their service when integration came about, but they never tired of promoting the cause of women in the service. We owe them a lot.

FOR VALOUR

Officers in shotgun drama share trophy

TWO officers who came under fire when a man with a shotgun lay siege to his sister's house are this year's joint winners of the John Egerton Trophy.

The trophy goes to the GMP officer or officers who, in the opinion of colleagues, have performed the most meritorious act of valour during the year.

The incident in which PC Claire Titterington and PC Stephen Worrall were involved ended with 30-stone 6ft 10in club bouncer Craig King being shot dead in the street in Ashton-under-Lyne by GMP officers.

He had gone on the rampage after mistakenly believing his sister Louise had been assaulted by her partner at her home.

CCTV showed King, 32, smashing the front door with a machete and breaking windows.

Then he had disappeared.

As PC Titterington and PC Worrall tried to comfort the distressed sister, King phoned the house and said he was coming back to shoot everyone.

Drive-by shooting

Moments later, a shot was fired through the living room window from a passing car, narrowly missing PC Titterington and smashing into the wall behind her.

When King suddenly reappeared outside the house with his shotgun, the officers led the sister and her partner upstairs.

After barricading the stairs, PC Worrall saw King through the front window shouting threats and abuse and brandishing the weapon.

PC Worrall gave a running



BRAVE: PC Claire Titterington and PC Stephen Worrall with Chief Constable Michael Todd and murdered officer's mother Mrs Joan Egerton

commentary of King's actions over his radio.

No option

An armed response unit arrived and after repeatedly warning King to put down his weapon, the officers in the team had no option but to shoot him when he levelled his rifle at them.

Following King's death in

hospital, it was found that he had been heavily under the influence of drugs and alcohol and had a history of violence.

King was the first person to be shot dead by GMP officers in the 33-year history of the Force.

At an awards ceremony at Sedgley Park Centre, PC Titterington, 27, and PC Worrall, 43, were presented with the

John Egerton Trophy by Mrs Joan Egerton.

She is the mother of the 20-year-old officer who was murdered on duty at Farnworth 25 years ago.

Earlier at a joint awards ceremony for Tameside and Oldham Divisions, the two Tameside officers had received high commendations from Chief Constable Michael Todd.

FIREARMS TEAM HAD NO ALTERNATIVE, SAID INVESTIGATORS

AFTER an inquest verdict of lawful killing over the shooting of Craig King, Naseem Malik, head of the Independent Police Complaints Commission for North West England, said:

"It must be recognised that police officers are

working in an increasingly violent environment and there are occasions when they are forced to make incredibly difficult decisions to protect their lives and the lives of the public.

"The IPCC's independent investigation found that, aside from some lessons to be learned by GMP over the management of such incidents, the officers involved had acted bravely and professionally.

"The firearms officers who entered an extremely dangerous and volatile situation were left with no alternative but to shoot due to the actions of Mr King."

HONOURING MURDERED OFFICER'S MEMORY

A MEMORIAL service has been held to mark the 25th anniversary of the murder of PC John Egerton.

Family, friends and former colleagues of the young officer gathered for a ceremony during which the conference suite at Bolton's new divisional headquarters was named in his honour.

A commemorative plaque was unveiled by PC Egerton's mother, Joan.

The officer was stabbed in a factory yard at Farnworth in 1982 as he tried to arrest a man caught siphoning petrol.

PC Egerton, 20, had been called to the Dynamics Plastic works to assist PC David O'Brien, who had seen a man climbing over the factory gate.

Minutes later, PC O'Brien found the body of his colleague and close friend, but was unable to do anything to save him.

The killer, Arthur Edge, was

jailed for life. He was released in 2000 after serving 18 years.

Ch Supt Dave Lea, the Bolton Divisional Commander, said: "The tragic death of PC Egerton remains a vivid reminder of the dangers that officers face.

"We felt it was important to mark the date with a permanent tribute, and the opening of the new headquarters gave us the opportunity to name part of the building in his memory."



TRIBUTE: Mrs Joan Egerton and Ch. Supt. Dave Lea

Double success in drug-busting awards

GMP has received a national award and been commended in a second category for drug-busting operations.

The annual Tackling Drug Supply Awards from the Home Office recognise forces that have successfully tackled street-level dealing, seized dealers' assets and linked with treatment agencies to curb drug-related crime.

Operation Hercules, which disrupted and broke up gangs

dealing on the streets of Bolton, was named as overall winner in the Tackling Street Dealing category.

Achievements included:

- Twenty-four arrests for conspiracy to supply Class A drugs or being concerned in the supply of controlled drugs
- Five gangs dismantled
- More than 38 drug users

prioritised for treatment

- Improved intelligence and evidence to continue other investigations.

COMMENDED

In the second award, the GMP Drug Unit was commended in the Tackling Middle Markets category for Operation Baton, which was developed from a previous operation by the unit, Avalon.

Among the achievements:

- Recovery of almost 100 kilos of Class A drugs worth £10 million
- Twenty-two arrests
- More than £2 million in assets seized, plus £261,000 in cash
- Jail terms totalling nearly 90 years handed down
- Five other defendants awaiting sentence and four awaiting trial.

Viciously bitten, but officer never gave in

SIX times Sgt Chris Allsop was savagely bitten by a bull terrier.

But he stood his ground and carried on trying to detain the man who had set the dog on him.

The Greenheys officer was attacked after being called to a domestic incident.

The dog's owner, who had assaulted his ex-girlfriend, refused to put the dog in another room and instead pushed it towards Sgt Allsop, causing it to become aggressive.

The man shouted commands at the dog, making it bark and snarl at the officer and jump up to bite his face.

Despite being bitten and in great pain, Sgt Allsop shielded two young sisters from the dog and continued his efforts to bring the animal under control.

GAS TURNED ON

The man then turned cooker taps on, filling the room with escaping gas.

He was arrested on the arrival of police colleagues and it was only then Sgt Allsop managed to calm the dog.

The officer was treated in hospital for extensive injuries, as well as loss of blood and loss of movement in both arms.

The man pleaded guilty to wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm and was jailed for five years, plus an indeterminate sentence for public protection.

At an awards ceremony at Sedgley Park Centre, Sgt Allsop received a high commendation for his bravery from Chief Constable Michael Todd.



A commendation from Coroner John Pollard went to DET CH INSP ALLAN DONOGHUE for his 'faultless' approach to an investigation into the death of an eight-year-old boy who was killed by a falling tree on a family day out at Dunham Massey Park, Altrincham, on New Year's Day 2005.



Code Zero means 'I need help now!'

By Sgt Steve Croft, Operational Communications Branch

THE project to introduce call signs to GMP starts its roll-out to divisions this month.

Incorporated in the roll-out is the introduction of a new Airwave radio protocol that will change the way we speak over the airwaves.

New codes based on key words will cut the amount of airtime used during routine communications and standardise processes in line with the new National Standards for Digital Communication.

By using consistent wording in all radio transmissions, the risk of misunderstanding or incorrect information being passed is minimal.

OVERHAUL

The introduction of the new standards at the same time as call signs means an overhaul to GMP command and control

procedures and is part of the drive to tackle incident management across the Force.

"The way we use our Airwave radio system is vital to ensuring the safety of operational officers," says Supt Mark Granby.

"Radio discipline and the enforcement of consistent radio terminology is an essential part of that process.

"Like any change, the introduction of the new key words and call signs will seem strange at first but will repay us, with interest, in the amount of extra air time released by more efficient use."

PC Ged Read and PC Anne Corry, who are delivering training to divisional officers in time for their go-live dates, say officers across the Force are receptive to the new protocols and supportive of the need for radio discipline.

Campaign warns of hot-weather burglary openings

A MAJOR awareness campaign encouraging people to shut and lock doors and windows to avoid becoming victims of opportunistic burglars was launched by GMP last month.

The 'Lock up - keep 'em out!' campaign, launched by ACC David Thompson (right), is in response to the fact that one in three burglaries in Greater

Manchester are down to doors and windows being left open or unlocked.

The drive has been timed to coincide with a predicted summer heatwave that could lead to an increase in burglars taking advantage of people lowering their guard in efforts to keep cool.

Officers are using bright orange and black slogans on posters, postcards and key-rings to get the message home.

The posters also feature shadowy burglars reaching through open doors and windows to grab possessions.

The promotional material is being supplemented by adverts and safety tips on regional and local radio stations.

RAPE AWARENESS TV CAMPAIGN

A NEW campaign aimed at preventing rape and increasing reporting of the crime has been launched by GMP, starting with two 60-second TV adverts that ran throughout last month on Channel M and the Force website.

One ad warned offenders that without consent for sex they can face long jail sentences.

The other described the effects of rape, the importance of reporting it and the victim support available.

Both ads depicted scenes at the end of an evening's drinking.

Det Supt Mick Lay, head of the Serious Crime Division's Public Protection Section, said: "We are always looking at new ways of getting vital messages across to potential offenders and victims."

The ads were created as part of GMP's Talon campaign, which is working to reduce serious sexual crimes and involves supporting victims, analysing intelligence and implementing tough operations to arrest offenders, together with prevention and awareness initiatives.

Dr Cath White, Clinical Director at St Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre, which supported the TV campaign, said the ads were powerful reminders of how rape could devastate lives.



Bigger role for Intelligence Bureau

IN an expansion of its role, the Force Intelligence Bureau absorbed the Force Operational Policing Unit last month, with officers and staff moving from Chester House to Bradford Park.

Headed by Director of Intelligence Det Supt Russ Jackson, the Bureau is part of the new Serious Crime Division.

One of its functions is to be the single point of contact for the relay of intelligence to and from GMP.

It is split into themed desks and specialist units.

The desks comprise:

- Burglary
- Personal robbery and harm crime

- Vehicle and criminal damage
- Commercial robbery
- Drugs
- Sexual crime
- Firearms

In addition, sections include:

- Analytical Co-ordination Desk
- Prison Intelligence Unit
- Football Intelligence Unit
- Intelligence Co-ordination Unit
- Dedicated Source Handling
- International intelligence liaison.

Three continuing major operations – Force priorities – are linked to the work of the Force Intelligence Bureau.

They are Talon (sexual crime), Xcalibre (gun crime) and Vanguard (cash in transit and financial institutions).

The work of the desk and unit intelligence analysts includes:

- Producing problem profiles
- Assisting in tactical assessments and the targeting of subjects
- Identifying links between offenders and offences
- Analysing relationships to establish hierarchy, structure and network
- Identifying interception points, information sources and other data to help the disruption of crime



A 'jewel' of a police officer

SHE was the first Asian woman to become a GMP officer. Then she became the first to be promoted.

Now Sgt Nita Jhanji-Garrod has added another 'first' to her CV.

At the Lloyds TSB Jewel Awards, which recognise Asians who have excelled in their profession or community, she received the national prize for public service excellence.

Nita was one of seven recipients of various awards, for which the organisers had 13,500 nominations.

"To be selected from such a large list as a nominee and then to win was a great honour," she said. "I was proud to represent the Asian community."

Nita received her accolade at the Palace Hotel in Manchester from former lord mayor Afzal Khan, who used to be a GMP officer and is also a previous Jewel Award winner.

Nita is currently Operational Support Manager in GMP's Diversity Command.

First posted to Gorton when she joined the Force 21 years ago, she has worked in CID, Special Branch, child protection and diversity training.

She has an MA in sustaining and promoting diversity and equality from the University of Central Lancashire.

Originally, she wanted to become a lawyer.

Then she saw a recruitment poster for GMP, thought about it overnight and decided to apply the next day.

DOUBLE TAKE



When ACC Vincent Sweeney went to Buckingham Palace to receive his QPM from the Queen, he met up with a familiar figure and a colourful figure.

First to greet him was John Willis, who had recently retired as Chief Executive of Salford Council and Clerk to Greater Manchester Police Authority.

He was at the investiture to be presented with a CBE.

Then Mr Sweeney found himself standing in line beside a Beefeater, as the Yeoman Warders who patrol the Tower of London are known.

The warder, Kenneth Bryant, wearing his scarlet ceremonial uniform, was at the palace to receive a voluntary service award from the Queen.

Once they and nearly 100 other honours recipients were back out of doors after the event, it was a time for family cameras to snap away.

For Mr Sweeney, it was a case of double take, first with Mr Willis and then with Yeoman Warder Bryant.



The QPM was awarded in the New Year Honours to Mr Sweeney, who joined GMP as an ACC 13 years ago from Northumbria Police. He retires from GMP next month.

CLOSING A LOOPHOLE

YOU could soon be seeing this sign at roadsides in Greater Manchester... on uninsured vehicles seized by GMP officers and put on public display.

Operation Wolverine has been launched



by the Traffic Network Section to increase seizures of illegally-driven vehicles.

It is aimed at closing a loophole in the legislation that enables a third party to collect an impounded vehicle and return it to a driver who has no insurance or licence.

One car is known to have been retrieved six times in this way.

Sgt Lee Donnelly said more stringent checks were now being made so that anyone trying to collect a vehicle was held more accountable.

Unless detailed documentation is produced, officers and enquiry counter staff refuse to release a seized vehicle in the 14 days before it can be sold or crushed.

Simply showing a trade or commercial

motor insurance policy that entitles the holder to drive any vehicle is no longer enough to justify a handover.

Ownership

A recent example involved a £23,000 Audi. A man arrived from Halifax to collect it, but was unable to show proof of ownership or any supporting document.

After refusing to divulge his personal details, he left without the vehicle.

It turned out that the car was on a finance company's wanted list and had been passed around among criminals, Sgt Donnelly said.

"We are seeing the link between uninsured vehicles and large-scale criminality more

Operation makes it tougher to regain seized vehicles

and more," he said.

Officers on Operation Wolverine have a direct line to the Motor Insurers' Bureau and are in touch with various Government agencies.

By the end of last year, 35 per cent of uninsured vehicles seized by GMP officers were either being sold on or crushed. Since the new TNS operation began, the figure has risen to 45 per cent.

Fewer than half the people trying to collect vehicles on behalf of others (they usually charge around £30 an hour for their services) have valid insurance.

Officers have also seen the same people appearing time and again after being paid to recover impounded vehicles.

Focus on PCSOs



WINNER: PCSO Dawn Knowles with Chief Constable Michael Todd and her award.

Dawn, the model PCSO

SHE is a model for others to follow, says Chief Constable Michael Todd.

And such is her commitment to her beat at Golborne that PCSO Dawn Knowles is this year's winner of the Wigan Metropolitan Trophy.

Every year, the award goes to the Wigan officer who is judged to have done the most, on and off duty, for community care.

Dawn, who was among GMP's first PCSO recruits four years ago, took over as Community Beat Manager for the pilot Golborne Neighbourhood last year.

It was a role in which Mr Todd said she had shown the knowledge, skill and drive to improve quality of life for local people.

Dawn has led alcohol seizures, been involved in truancy sweeps, implemented good behaviour agreements, gathered evidence for ASBO applications, resolved neighbour disputes and helped to launch Wigan Division's first No Cold Calling Zone at Golborne.

She's also led a series of crime reduction events at a local supermarket and conducted more than 120 crime reduction visits to 'vulnerable' homes.

Many of the letters of appreciation passed to Brief from GMP divisions come from people who say their problems have been solved and their lives improved by PCSOs. Here are some received recently, starting with a letter praising the winner of the Wigan Metropolitan Trophy, Dawn Knowles.

WE had been experiencing problems with neighbours and local youths. The local police, especially **PCSO Dawn Knowles**, dealt with the issue superbly. It is reassuring to know there is support and assistance available through the community police officers. Dawn has remained in regular contact and I feel sure she will continue to do so. The help and assistance we received has been much appreciated, especially since I tried to contact our local councillors and got no reply.

*Mrs S.G.
Golborne.*

I HAD to leave an event at Abram Park because of illness while with my 85-year-old mother. **PCSO Janice Platt** kindly offered to make sure my mother got home safe and escorted her back to our house. It was

typical of Janice to ensure that I was all right while my mother continued to enjoy her day with old friends. Janice is a wonderful asset to this area, and I feel that with her and **PC Paul Myers**, we can have confidence in our local policing. We certainly need people like Janice to build up the old community spirit.

*Miss K. Billington,
Abram.*

MY friend had locked his car with the keys in the ignition and the spare key in the boot. I was on my way to help when I came across **PCSOs Francis Law** and **Lawrence Winstanley**. I explained the dilemma, and after checking ownership of the vehicle, they gained access to the car after half an hour. It was a pleasure to have met two such excellent officers.

*B. Trainor,
Hyde.*

I WAS in the garden with my husband who is no longer able to do any gardening. So it's left to me and I'm not very good just yet. I couldn't start the mower and was hoping to see if a neighbour could help when, like a miracle, **PCSO Riz Mansoor** appeared at the garden gate. I asked if he could help and he not only started the mower but went up and down the garden to make sure it was working properly.

*Mrs E. McClay,
Brooklands.*

I SAW two PCSOs, **Paul Dickinson** and **Jason O'Connell**, working hard outside the JJB Fitness Club to ensure people had not left belongings in their cars. They told me many people had become victims by leaving items and having their car windows smashed. The previous week, my husband had his car broken into and his sat nav stolen. A few days later, the police called to say they had caught the person responsible.

*Mrs Sandra Thompson,
Orrell.*

A NEIGHBOUR had endured a long period of harassment from local youths and matters took a serious turn when this became more concentrated after she was diagnosed with terminal cancer. After **PCSOs Simon Walker**, **Lindsey Bryce**, **Peter Mackay** and **Hazel Dean** became involved, the situation improved with no

further activity by these boys. The officers have proved effective and we hope it should ensure a peaceful environment for our neighbour and her son during the last few months of her life.

*George Bickerstaffe,
Shaw, Oldham.*

MY neighbours and I are grateful to **PCSO Jane Boulton** and personnel at **Leigh Operational Communications Room** for their help with a long-term problem of troublesome, abusive teenagers. Jane was reassuring and kept me informed by phone and a home visit.

*Mrs J.M.,
Hindley.*

THANKS to **PCSO Phil Parrans** for helping me with a long-standing problem with youths causing annoyance. It was very much appreciated.

*C.L.,
Hattersley.*

PLEASE pass on our thanks to **PCSOs Dave Wilcock** and **Gill Edwards** for participating in our World Book Day.

Dave very bravely read to half the school and was then subject to a question and answer session from Class 6.

*Tony Triska, Headteacher,
New Greenhall School,
Atherton.*



Picture by Bill Morris

Being a PCSO is the right recipe for ex-canteen worker Margaret

MARGARET Stanway asked for a PCSO application pack for her husband – and ended up becoming one herself.

Now based at Urmston, Margaret started in her new role this year.

She had worked in catering for more than 30 years, most recently at Stretford Police Station. When the station's canteen closed, she was

redeployed to Human Resources Branch at Chester House.

But all that changed when she requested the information pack. "Because there was a lot of publicity around the role of PCSOs, I took an application pack home for my husband in August last year," she said.

"I sat down and thought I wouldn't mind having a look at what it was all about."

Husband Ian didn't pursue the idea, but the information pack made one thing clear to Margaret – she wanted to change career and become a PCSO.

She said: "I love it. I really enjoy talking to people and getting involved in the community.

"There are things I'm doing now that I couldn't see myself doing before, taking a lead in

the areas I patrol and dealing with issues of concern to people.

"Changing roles has been a challenge, but it has done me a favour.

"It has given me a lot more confidence and made me realise there is more out there that I'm capable of doing.

"In preparing for the role change, my branch was supportive and provided

assistance – and I would advise anyone changing roles to listen to all the advice they can get."

Margaret is one of 38 new PCSOs who began patrolling Trafford recently, taking the division's total to 49.

She is on the right of the picture above with (from the left) Francesca Decarpentry, Simon Ritchie, Steve Ingham and Hugh Blair

COLLEGE LESSONS

PCSOs were among a GMP group that spent an afternoon at Bolton's Islamic College for Boys giving the 11 to 18-year-olds an insight into modern policing last month.

The boys were introduced to local officers and given a demonstration of how and when CS spray, handcuffs and batons are used.

The programme included an explanation of stop and search procedures, as well as career advice for pupils interested in joining the police.

PCSO Mark Detheridge organised a Saddleworth and Lees safety event last month to help elderly residents avoid becoming victims of crime. He focused particularly on bogus callers and sneak-in burglars.

FIVE PCSOs and two police officers are based at a police post that opened last month in Broadoak Community Centre at Ashton-under-Lyne.

It has been financed by the Safer Stronger Communities Fund, which allocates cash for community cohesion projects.

MATCH MAKER

PCSO Dave Johnson arranged a Bank Holiday football match at Radcliffe last month between a police team and youths from the Coronation Road estate that drew a crowd of 300 or more.

Dave also organised a clown to entertain the children, as well as a raffle and tombola – and he won the support of local people who provided catering.

After Ch Insp Jenny Dixon had kicked off the match, Dave also captained the police side – which lost 3-2.

"I've built a good relationship with these youths and their families over the last few months," he said.

"The support from the local residents for the match was fantastic. It has not only helped to make my area of Radcliffe better to work in, but I have a lot more respect from the residents that I see every day.

"It was a great way of building bridges with the local community."

A trip back in time gives children a glimpse of Victorian crime and punishment

WHEN Bridgewater Primary School at Little Hulton, Salford, held a Victorian week, children and staff wore period costumes and wrote on slates.

Thanks to one of the division's school-based officers, PC Shaun Concah, they also got an insight into what it was like inside a Victorian police station and courtroom with a trip to the GMP Museum.

Shaun said: "As part of a presentation I made at the school, I wore a Peeler's uniform and showed the children a selection of

truncheons, whistles and leg-irons that would have been used by police in Victorian times."

He wore the same outfit for the children's museum visit.

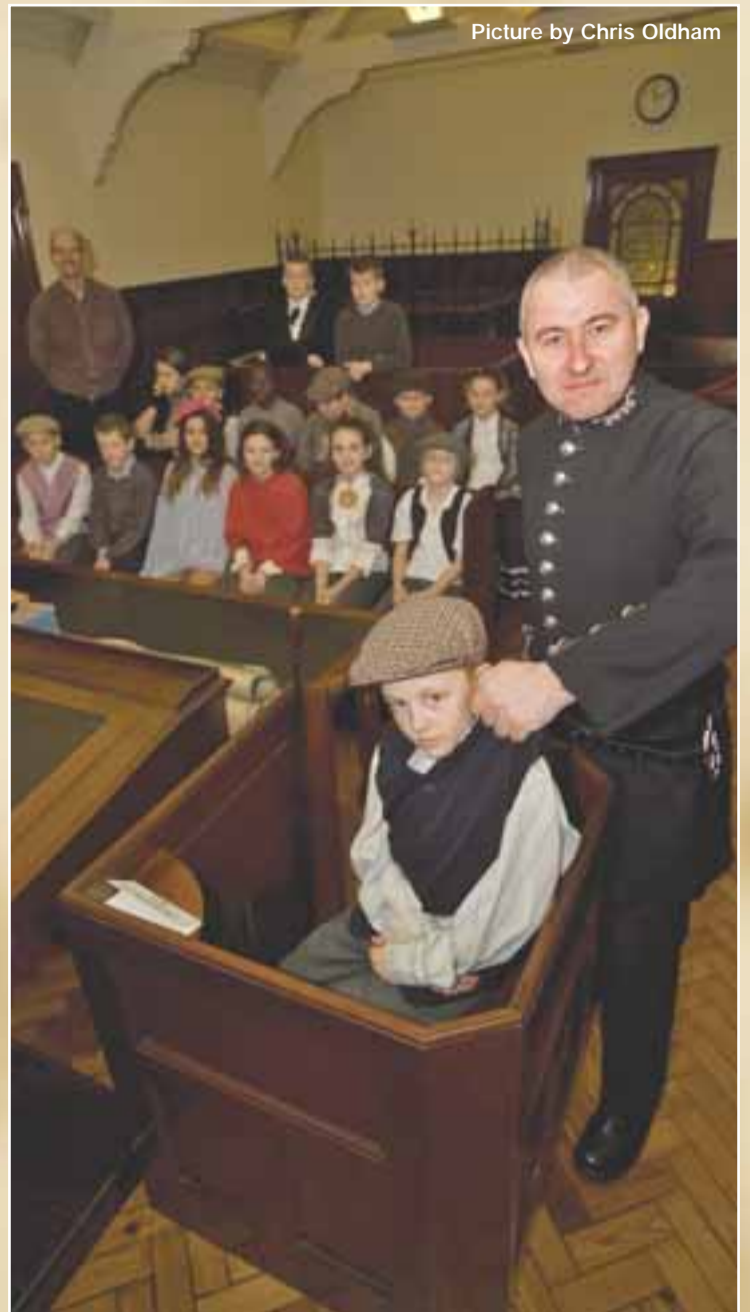
School administrator Judith Newsum said: "They thoroughly enjoyed it. Being able to sit in the original police cells and courtroom made history come alive for them."

Curator Duncan Broady said: "The museum is a great resource for bringing the past to life.

"Children can read about

Victorian times in textbooks, but by visiting us they can actually see an authentic Victorian courtroom, charge office and police cells."

SILENCE IN COURT: Elliott Mostyn, 11, has his collar felt by PC Shaun Concah when pupils from Little Hulton visited the GMP Museum in Victorian-style clothes. They sat in the courtroom that was reassembled at the museum after being moved piece by piece from Denton, Tameside.



Picture by Chris Oldham



ART WORK: While she was between homes, Tara Ward, an enquiry counter assistant at Longsight, stayed in the motel-style accommodation of Sedgley Park Centre at Prestwich.

From her window, she could see the Grade II listed Sedgley House and decided

to sketch it.

The former art student turned the sketch into a water colour painting and presented it to the Learning and Development Branch.

Now it hangs in the corridor near the Garden Room of the Victorian building.



TOWN HALL MEETING: Ch Insp Catherine Hankinson and a member of the Indian Senior Citizens' Centre in Manchester.

IN recognition of the diamond jubilee of the independence of India, South Manchester Division has initiated a series of personal journeys for BBC Radio that will be broadcast at the end of July and through August.

This is one of a number of events taking place over the year

to improve relations between the diverse South Asian communities. Community and Race Relations Officer Mazamil Bashir said: "We arranged an event at Manchester Town Hall through the local councillors, and Councillor Faraz Bhatti supported us by inviting key members of the diverse South Asian community."

Ch Insp Catherine Hankinson spoke about community cohesion, while Talat Farooq Awan, a producer/presenter with BBC Manchester and BBC Lancashire, described how he would be organising the diamond jubilee radio programmes.

TOP GEAR

Roads unit gets £100,000 equipment donation from the Highways Agency

CAMERAS and surveying equipment worth £100,000 has been presented to GMP's Collision Reconstruction Unit by the Highways Agency.

The donation means investigators can examine scenes and reopen roads faster, which in turn will help the Highways Agency achieve one of its main aims – to reduce congestion.

In GMP, it was felt that the equipment presently used by officers was adequate.

But the Highways Agency wanted to speed things up. So it



HELPING TO KEEP THE MOTORWAYS MOVING: Insp Paul Rowe, of the Collision Reconstruction Unit, with surveying equipment presented to GMP by Roy Wood, a regional manager of the Highways Agency.

provided the tools to do so.

The equipment was presented when an open day focusing on 'congestion management' was held at the HA's Westhoughton motorway

depot.

As well as GMP, there were representatives from the Cheshire, Lancashire and Merseyside forces.

GMP's involvement in the

event was arranged by former motorway officer Roger Coles, of Traffic Management and Highways Agency Liaison in the Strategic Roads Policing Unit (formerly the Motorway Unit).

TAMESIDE & OLDHAM

Two awards for officer in river rescue attempt

TAMESIDE officer Sgt Adam Greenslade received a Chief Constable's high commendation and a Royal Humane Society award for trying to rescue a 12-year-old boy from the River Tame at Haughton Green.

Sgt Greenslade and a colleague had arrived to find two men already searching the freezing water.

After securing themselves to the riverbank, the officers fought against a strong current in 'valiant' efforts to rescue the boy, the citation said.

Repeatedly, they dived under the water, but exhaustion took hold and they had to return to the riverbank. The boy's body was found shortly afterwards by police divers.

OLDHAM officers PC Benjamin Griffin and PC Andrew Whittaker received St John Ambulance awards for saving the life of a man who had a heart attack while driving and crashed into a wall.

After finding the man had no pulse and had stopped breathing, PC Griffin gave mouth-to-mouth and PC Whittaker performed chest compressions for 10 minutes until an ambulance came.

The man made a full recovery.

A GROUP of four friends aged 19 to 21 received high commendations from the Chief Constable for 'outstanding citizenship' by going to the aid of a woman in her 50s who was attacked and sexually assaulted walking home from Hyde Bus Station.

They chased the attacker, but then returned to comfort and reassure the woman and escort her home before calling the police.

The would-be rapist was traced and jailed for four years eight months. The trial judge said the four friends had restored his faith in human nature.

Accolade for Business Services The gold standard

IT manages the disposal of everything from engine oil to cooking oil.

And its commitment to reducing the impact on the environment has brought GMP's Business Services Branch an international gold seal of approval.

It has been awarded Environmental Management System Standard ISO 14001 by the Manchester-based accreditation body, ISOQAR.

Managers say the introduction of ISO 14001 has helped the branch improve its environmental performance.

The accreditation covers Workshop Services, Design and Print, Catering, Fleet Services, Fuel Site Management and Waste Management.

Business Services Branch manages the disposal of numerous waste 'streams' such as engine oils, inks, antifreeze, batteries, metal, plastic, cooking oil, brake fluid, vehicles, oil filters, brake discs, paper, cardboard, oily rags, cans, paints and plastic bottles.

All the waste is disposed of through registered carriers and recycled if possible.

The latest award complements the branch's earlier accreditation of ISO 9001 (Quality Management System).

That covers Referrals (Vehicle Recovery Scheme and Boarding and Glazing), Catering Services, Transport Duty Office, Workshop Services Reception, Design and Print, Procurement and Uniform and Equipment Services.

'AMAZING' PROGRESS IN DISABILITY SUPPORT

GMP has made significant progress in supporting staff with disabilities, according to PC Chris Makinson, who chairs the Force's Disability Support Network.

At a meeting to mark the first 12 months of the network, he said:

"Disability is something that will affect one in four people in the country at some time in their lives.

"Yet five, six or seven years ago, people with a disability in GMP might have felt they were on their own.

"But the progress that has been made in the past 12 month has been absolutely amazing, including the introduction of a Disability Equality Scheme which is a commitment by GMP

to supporting people with disabilities."

The network – which uses the slogan Focus on ability, not disability - has provided support to its members, assisted officers and staff who work with disabled colleagues and supported the Force in engaging disabled communities.

In GMP, four per cent of police staff and one-and-a-half per cent of police officers have declared a disability.

ACC Rob Taylor said: "The Force's aim is to realise the value and benefit of every individual in the organisation.

"To assist in this process, it is important that managers conduct a risk assessment when somebody with a disability comes to work in their area."

Change management

A stress-busting guide to managing change in the workplace has been produced by the Force.

The 21 page booklet, titled The way we do change around here, is designed to help anyone involved

in implementing a programme of change.

In a simple step-by-step process, it pays particular attention to reducing the stress on officers and staff traditionally associated with periods of

change.

It does this under five headings, giving advice on how to:

Create a vision

Consult to reach a positive outcome

Communicate effectively

Cope – helping staff to avoid the stresses traditionally associated with change

Capture the impact of the change through effective evaluation.

Louisa Wright, of the Human Resources Branch's Organisational Development Consultancy, said: "The purpose of the guide is to take stock of how we have managed change in the

past, examine lessons learned and pave a path for more effective change management in the future.

"Throughout the document, quotes from staff and officers are used to highlight points about what worked and what didn't, demonstrate the effects of the change process and to share hints and tips."

A copy of the guide is available on the Intranet.

COP 'N ROLL



ON THE BEAT: PC Dave Rolfe and friends at Oldham's City Learning Centre.

PC DAVE ROLFE, a former semi-professional musician, is passing on his expertise to budding young performers at a series of sessions that he calls Rocks-Cool at City Learning Centres in Greater Manchester. The sessions were his own idea and he arranges them in his own time. Here, the Oldham officer describes how Rocks-Cool works and why he's doing it.

THE idea behind Rocks-Cool is to get young people to do something positive with their spare time, make new friends and open up new career paths.

I run the sessions in the evenings, at weekends and during school holidays so that they don't impact on curriculum time.

Music is a common thread through young people's lives and they can relate to it.

They bring their own instruments and I provide the technical hardware support.

Last December, I received a grant of £6,300 from the Community Foundation for Greater Manchester with which I was able to buy a 6,000-watt professional PA system, 17 microphones, amplifiers, a drum kit and 1,500-watt on-stage monitoring equipment.

This means I can provide a stage set equal to that of professional performers, and the young people, aged 11 to 16, can use equipment not normally available to them.

SOUND LEARNING

They learn skills relating to performing, tuning instruments, maintaining them and team building.

I also have students learning sound engineering by setting up, operating and monitoring the sound equipment.

I have formed a relationship with the nine City Learning Centres in Greater Manchester. They are specialist providers of education funded by the Department for Education and Science and the use of their facilities would normally cost around £70 an hour, but I get them free.

The Community Foundation has been so impressed that it wants me to run a charitable fund for creative arts in Greater Manchester, a great accolade.

My Divisional Commander, Ch Supt Caroline Ball, has been very supportive of the project and has provided me with a van (not a new one, of course) so that I can move the two tons of equipment about.

GRANT REQUEST

I have also applied to the Greater Manchester High Sheriff's Police Trust for a grant and I am expecting to hear the result shortly.

All in all, things are going from strength to strength and I see a bright future for Rocks-Cool.

Courses have culminated in youngsters going into a recording studio and making a CD – and performances have included events such as the Community Foundation's Night of Stars at the New Century Hall, Manchester, and the Schools Extravaganza at Oldham Coliseum.

Our top-drawer PA system, incidentally, is available for hire at reduced prices, which will bring in

valuable funding and give the young people useful on-the-job training.

I am reliant on donations and grants and I give all my time for free, usually ending up out of pocket.

In the course of a year, I expect to give at least 100 days, including two evenings a week, every other weekend and holidays.

But I believe it is worth pursuing – I feel I am making a difference and building bridges between young people and the police. They love it and yes, so do I.

Dave Rolfe, 40, is operations co-ordinator with Oldham Operational Policing Unit. The father of two is a former prison officer and joined GMP in 1995. Before his present posting, he worked in the divisional Tactical Youth Section and as a school liaison officer. He also has an adult teaching qualification.

Pictures by Bill Morris



More foster carers needed

A DRIVE to recruit 400 new foster carers has been started by the Family Placement Service of Manchester City Council.

Volunteers are wanted from all cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds.

In an appeal directed at organisations such as GMP, officials say they need short-term and long-term foster carers, adopters, short-break carers for disabled children and

supported lodgings providers for 16 to 18 year olds.

"This year, we particularly wish to raise awareness of how important it is to keep brothers and sisters together," said Recruitment Officer Helen Starr-Kedde.

"Sometimes, these children can be of a very different age or have individual needs and this makes it difficult to find the one

family that can look after all of them.

"We also need people who have the patience and understanding to care for and support teenagers during what could be a difficult period in their life.

"You can be single or married, homeowner or renting, straight or gay, employed or unemployed. We will provide you with preparation, training, support and

a comfortable weekly allowance."

* Call the Fosterline 0161 860 7666 to ask any questions or discuss your interest with a member of the team.

Video clips of foster carers and adopters describing their experiences can be found on

www.manchester.gov.uk/ssd/children/fostering/index

Criminal justice – changing how we work

by Hayley Caulfield

THE way frontline officers deal with cases and process files will undergo several changes over the coming months as part of an overhaul of the criminal justice system.

Known as CJSS:MC, it will involve several criminal justice agencies changing the way they work to make the system faster, more effective and provide a better service for victims, witnesses and staff.

It will also mean those accused of crime are processed quicker through the courts.

The changes will involve improving the speed and effectiveness of the magistrates' courts (that is the MC in the title).

The SSS stands for simply, speedy and summarily.

The aim is to see an increase in guilty pleas and a reduction in adjournments. The number of hearings in most cases will drop from an average of five or six to an expectation of one for guilty pleas and two for contested cases.

This will drastically reduce the time taken from arrest to sentence and see a reduction in the number of repeat visits that defendants, police officers and witnesses have to make to court for hearings.

Backlog to be cleared

Initially, CJSS will mean clearing a backlog of cases.

The first stage of CJSS:MC begins with an arrest, and it is important that frontline officers ensure files are good enough to go straight through to the next stage of charging without the need to ask for unnecessary adjournments.

Ch Insp John Leigh, who is managing the project for GMP, said: "It is not about adopting new policing methods, it's about doing what we do now but better.

"The expected result will be that long-term, officers will have the tools to turn round cases faster and produce better quality files.

"We are in the process of agreeing new ways of working with the CPS to ensure police don't do unnecessary file building and can do the job they entered the force to do – be on the streets fighting crime."

CJSS: MC will roll out in stages across the Force, starting in August in Salford and Rochdale with the rest going live by the end of December.

Each area is establishing a local implementation team of representatives from all the agencies involved.

Impact

Ch Insp Leigh said: "We aim to minimise the impact on frontline policing but maximise the benefits on performance.

"These changes will impact on every criminal justice agency and it's up to us as frontline police officers to ensure the changes in the way that justice is delivered run smoothly from the outset."



LOOKS FAMILIAR: Artist's impression of the new Bury HQ opening in 2009.

£20M HQ FOR BURY

A NEW £20 million headquarters for Bury Division is expected to open early in 2009.

Work starts at the end of this year on the three-storey building.

It will be in the Chamberhall Business Park, 300 yards from the present HQ, which was built in 1971.

The design is by Jaroslaw Wruleb, the architect behind the programme of 17 new GMP buildings completed last year.

Facilities will include an underground car park.

Chamber Hall, now demolished, was the Bury birthplace of police founder Sir Robert Peel.

OBITUARIES

Enquiry Counter Assistant **Emma Hermann**, 48, of Oldham, died on April 23, leaving a fiancée, Martin Buckley. She joined GMP in 1989 and was based at Uppermill.

Former PC **William Acheson**, 86, of Fleetwood, died on May 14, leaving a widow, Monica. He joined Manchester City Police in 1958 and retired from GMP in 1975.

Former Sgt **Harold Atkin**, 85, of Salford, died on April 28, leaving a widow, Edith. He served with Salford City Police from 1941 to 1966.

Former PC **Harold Butterworth**, 88, of Morecambe, died on May 1, leaving a daughter as next of kin. He served with Salford City Police from 1939 to 1956.

Former PC **Nigel Butterworth**, 49, of Astley, died on April 26, leaving a sister as next of kin. He served with GMP from 1976 to 2003.

Former PC **Angela Cawley**, 60, of Stalybridge, died on April 15, leaving a daughter as next of kin. She served with GMP from 1977 to 1987, retiring on health grounds.

Former Sgt **Stanley Dodd**, 72, of Stockport, died on April 29, leaving a widow, Sheila. He joined Cheshire Police in 1954 and retired from GMP in 1985.

Former Sgt **Norman Flower**, 86, of Cheadle, died on April 24, leaving a widow, Margaret. He joined Manchester City Police in 1946 and retired from GMP in 1976.

Ian Jennings, of Altrincham, whose death was reported in the May edition of Brief, was a chief inspector when he retired from GMP in 1988, not a PC as wrongly stated.

Tinted window warning

UP to last month, nearly 2,000 motorists in Greater Manchester had been issued with £30 fixed penalty notices since a ban on over-tinted windows was introduced last October.

Prohibition notices were served on a further 440 drivers, which meant their vehicles could not be driven until the tints were

removed.

PC Dave Barrow, of Traffic Network Section, said: "Tinted windows are illegal for a reason – they are unsafe."

To test windows, Roads Policing Unit officers use a calibrated device, Tintman, that measures the amount of light passing through the glass.

Death of crime prevention leader

RON Salthouse MBE, chairman of Manchester City Centre Crime Prevention Panel, died in April after a long illness.

"He was a huge supporter of GMP and continued his support and work for the panel right to the end," said the group's secretary, PC Stuart Pizzey, North Manchester Division's

Crime Reduction Adviser.

Mr Salthouse, who lived in Sale, retired as a senior figure at the CIS in Manchester in 1997 and had been involved in crime prevention groups since the late 1960s.

He was the longest serving chairman and member of the city centre panel.

NOMINATE NOW FOR THE JUSTICE AWARDS

NOMINATIONS for the 2007 Justice Awards opened online last month and run until August 3, writes Hayley Caulfield.

The awards established in 2003 recognise staff and volunteers working in the criminal justice system, from frontline police officers through to staff from the CPS, courts, probation, Youth Offending Services, community safety partnerships and many more.

Nominations were received last year from officers on Bury, Trafford, Manchester, Oldham and Tameside Divisions.

The Local Criminal Justice Board, chaired by ACC Rob Taylor, co-ordinates the awards at county level.

"These awards are more than just a pat on the back," said Mr Taylor.

"They give GMP and other agencies the opportunity to receive national recognition for their work.

"We have yet to see a GMP representative make it to the national finals, so this year I'd really like to see a push from divisions in nominating colleagues and teams."

All eligible

Criminal justice staff and volunteers across Greater Manchester are eligible for an award, no matter what they do.

There are 15 categories for both teams and individuals. The awards recognise work with victims, witnesses, volunteers, diversity, engaging with communities and partnership across the CJS.

Do you know a special constable who goes the extra mile in the community? Well, there's a new award for Volunteer of the Year.

Or perhaps you've worked with an outstanding victim support volunteer or youth offending panel member. Why not nominate them?

The police have an outstanding record of finalists and winners over the past three years, including winning the overall prize - the Justice Shield Award, in both 2005 and 2006.

Nominations can be made online:

www.cjsonline.gov.uk/justiceawards

*For further information or any questions about the awards, call extension 61248 or email Hayley.Caulfield@gmp.police.uk.

More than tea and sympathy needed in.....

The making of a good Family Liaison Officer

If you were asked: 'What does a Family Liaison Officer do?' you might reply: 'A bit of tea and sympathy.' You couldn't be further from the truth. FLOs are more than that. They are central to an investigation. To understand more about the role, PATRICIA JONES caught up with Det Con Jack Wild, GMP's FLO Co-ordinator.

How long have you been an FLO?

About 11 years.

Why did you decide to become an FLO?

I had been an investigator for some time and wanted to do something different. The FLO role is often overlooked and I felt at the time I had the right skills and abilities to do the job. Sometimes, when you are sat with a family, they will open up to you and share information that they may have not even shared with their family. This is the heart of the investigation and often leads to capturing vital information.

Each investigation is very different and I get a huge amount of job satisfaction from the role.

What sort of incidents does an FLO get involved with?

There are three elements. The first is 'traffic' and they have their own FLOs normally attached to road policing units. The second is 'crime' and FLOs are spread across the Force and deal mainly with murder and manslaughter investigations. One of the most recent examples is the Arshad murder investigation at Cheadle Hulme.

Both traffic and crime FLOs will also deal with mass

disasters, such as train crashes where there are multiple fatalities, terrorist attacks and tsunami.

Once you've trained as an FLO, getting the practical experience is what makes you a good FLO. It's only then you can begin to develop your skills and abilities. Every investigation is different and no situation is the same.

Does an FLO work within just one division?

No. When an FLO is requested, they work across the Force rather than be restricted to any one particular area.

Is it a full time role?

No. The role runs alongside your normal duty and is called upon on an as-and-when required basis.

How many FLOs are there at the moment?

In traffic and crime combined, approximately 110.

Does the Force need more FLOs?

There are more situations now where an FLO is requested and we need to ensure that we are able to provide this vital role at a crucial time during an investigation. We also need more FLOs from an ethnic minority background so that we



FLO CHART: from left, PC Simon Almond, Det Con Jack Wild, PC Steve Simcock and PC Carole Fairhurst.

can match a family's expectations for a requested FLO as best we can.

Of course, anyone interested in becoming an FLO needs to have proven skills as an investigator in the first place (which do not have to be acquired or honed in a CID role), excellent communication skills and general suitability for the role.

I know that when working with a family, in some 70 to 80 per cent of cases the victim will know their killer and it is likely that someone in the family will also know the killer. If that is the case, where we can provide the right FLO for the right investigation will, I have no doubt, help the investigation overall.

What support is there in place?

It is very important to have a network of individuals as there are times when the role does become stressful. As well as Occupational Health, divisional commanders and Major Incident

Team senior investigating officers and many other individuals within the MIT structure, we do also get together as a network to share good practice and listen to others' experiences.

How important is networking?

The networking events are a great opportunity to get together to sound off each other and where we can share ideas and good practice. We hold two network events each year and usually invite a number of guest speakers to talk about their own experiences. At the last network event, Cate Jackson, from West Yorkshire Police, spoke about her experience as an FLO dealing with suspected terrorists, Ann Bowden, a volunteer for BrakeCare, spoke from a victim's point of view, and Mohammed Athar, a member of the Serious Crime Division Independent Advisory Group, talked about the role of the IAG in relation to the Family Liaison Network and across the division.

If you are interested in finding out more about the role of an FLO, visit the Serious Crime Division website or for an informal chat, contact Jack Wild on extension 66720.

Museum Matters....

By Curator Duncan Broady

SENSATIONAL media coverage of serious crime is nothing new. We have been given a 19th century commemorative postcard from colleagues at the West Midlands Police Museum, which tells the tale of father and son William and Thomas Bradbury who were murdered in 1832 at the Bill's O' Jack's Inn at Greenfield, Saddleworth.

The postcard features a photo of the inn and sets the tone by informing us that the two victims were 'savagely murdered in an unusually horrid manner' and goes on to record in verse that:

'Such interest did their tragic end excite that,

'Ere they were removed from human sight,

'Thousands on thousands daily came to see,

'The bloody scene of the catastrophe.'

This was indeed true as the victims' relatives were happy to provide guided tours of the crime scene for parties of 12 at a time only days after the inquest and before any perpetrator was caught.

Not surprisingly, no one was ever convicted.

MEMBERS of Greater Manchester Police Authority made an official visit, including a behind-the-scenes look at the storerooms and new archive research room.

There was also a opportunity to meet some of our volunteers and look at latest improvements to the museum.

Members said they were very impressed by the range of activities we undertake and that they were keen to support our work.

A BOYS' reading group project has met at the museum. The group aims to provide boys on the verge of criminality with positive male role models and encourages the boys to read and put positive strands into their lives. Tameside PC Andy Faithful is closely involved with the group and brought them to the museum to provide an inspirational setting for their reading.

USING our archive collection, a university undergraduate is looking into the policing of Manchester's emerging club scene in the early 1960s.

Files held at the museum document the development of clubs such as the Twisted Wheel, in which a young Jimmy Savile pioneered the role of club DJ.

Winners by design



Insp Mike Coombes, Mike Ramsden, of Crimestoppers, and poster design competition winners. Photo: Middleton Guardian.

PUPILS from five North Manchester high schools have helped to promote the partnership between GMP and Crimestoppers in a poster design competition.

Each of the five winners received a £200 cash prize and a conducted tour of GMP, including trips to the helicopter base, the museum and Mounted Unit at Hough End.

While the winning posters are to be displayed around the division, the one designed by the overall winner, James King, of North Manchester High School for Boys, is to feature on computer mouse mats.

James also won a Manchester United shirt signed by the team.

Insp Mike Coombes, who presented the prizes at Plant Hill Police Station, Blackley, said:

"Seeing their work displayed in public places should give the five winners a real sense of achievement."

The other winners were Lucy Bridge, of St Matthew's High School, Abbie Gavin, of Our Lady's High School, Hannah Jamieson, of North Manchester High School for Girls, and Sarah Ballard, Plant Hill High School.



Greater Manchester
CRIMESTOPPERS
0800 555 111
Working in partnership with the police

MORE than 5,000 actionable calls were made in Greater Manchester last year to the Crimestoppers number.

The calls led to 396 arrests and the recovery of vehicles worth £254,000, goods worth £33,000, drugs amounting to £507,000, eight guns and £37,000 in cash.

At a divisional level, Wigan topped the list for the number

of calls (519).

Across the UK, one person is arrested and charged with murder every four to five days on average as a result of someone calling Crimestoppers.

An average of 17 arrests a day are made with the help of information from Crimestoppers. Nearly half of all arrests are for drug offences.

Great Manchester High Sheriff's Police Trust



By Janet Wilcox

BURNAGE Multi-Agency Group (BMAG) has been awarded £2,500 by the Greater Manchester High Sheriff's Police Trust to help establish a cycling project in the area.

Young people will learn how to repair and maintain old bicycles donated by GMP. The bikes will then be given to either the members themselves or to anyone else in the community needing one.

This work forms part of the Ticket to Ride project, which promotes a healthier lifestyle for young people, encouraging them to take part in walking,

boxing, cycling and other outdoor activities, leading to sections of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Access Awards.

Cycle maintenance training, if completed, will also mean that the participants are accredited by the Open College Network (OCN).

BMAG hopes to run three 10-week courses a year, each training eight young people in cycle maintenance.

The application for funding from the Sheriff's Trust was made by Det Con Steve Hobson, Crime Reduction Adviser for South Manchester Division.



Pictured with three trainees are (from left) Len Howarth, a trustee of the High Sheriff's Police Trust, project manager Margaret Slack, GMP's Janet Wilcox and Det Con Steve Hobson.

GOT a crime-busting idea that needs funding? Then think about applying for a grant from the High Sheriff's Police Trust by contacting External Funding

Officer Janet Wilcox in the Divisional and Partnership Support Unit at Force HQ on extension 61144.

Retirement invitation

Brenda Wilcock, retiring after 20 years with GMP (Swinton, The Crescent and then the new Swinton station), invites friends

past and present to join her for a farewell drink and buffet at The Buckley Arms, Swinton, on Thursday, July 12, from 4pm.

Injuries cost hockey team final success

(but six GMP players help the national squad to four victories)



Hockey squad members who played in all GMP's games (some are not in the picture) are: Bob Berrington, Phil Cowtan, Graeme Murrie, Rick Markham, Julian Scarsbrook, Mike Carson, Mark Taylor, Matt Crofts, Roy Hodkinson, Mark Tiffany, Paul Carroll, Phil Housley, Tim Ryan, Mark D'Souza, Rick Kenefick and Paul Gie.

THE GMP men's hockey squad made it to the finals of the Police Sport UK cup competition for the third time in four years.

En route, they thrashed Strathclyde Police 10-0 at home in December and Essex 2-1 after extra time in February on a rapidly freezing pitch at Chelmsford.

In the semi-finals at Sheffield against Avon and Somerset, an almost full-strength GMP team led by Julian Scarsbrook (Stockport) won 3-2 with a penalty corner goal in the last 10 seconds of the match.

This set GMP up for the final the next day against the Police Service of Northern Ireland, who had comfortably beaten Kent in their semi-final.

PSNI took a 1-0 lead mid-way through

the first half and the score didn't change until the closing minutes.

Hit with a couple of injuries from the Avon and Somerset game the day before, as well as a few players being unavailable through work commitments, GMP found it tough in front of goal and couldn't break through the solid Irish defence.

They committed players forward in a bid to secure extra time, but this left gaps and weaknesses in the midfield and defence, allowing PSNI to increase their lead to 3-0 at the end.

Julian Scarsbrook said: "It was another tough game against a strong, physical PSNI side, evenly balanced until the last 10 minutes.

"Had it not have been for our injuries from the day before, the trophy could easily have been ours."

* In February and March, six GMP officers were in the British Police side in the annual competition against the Army, Navy, RAF and Civil Service.

For the first time ever, the police triumphed in every game, beating the RAF and Civil Service 6-3 each, the Army 6-2 and the Navy 6-4.

The GMP officers in the team were Rick Markham (Metrolink), Mark D'Souza (Crime Training), Rick Kenefick (North Manchester), Julian Scarsbrook (Stockport), Matt Crofts (South Manchester) and Graeme Murrie (Traffic Network).

* Mark D'Souza has been appointed a player-coach with the British Police men's hockey team.

Rugby League

BRITISH POLICE 16
BARLA 34

by Damieon Pickles

The British Police and BARLA served up a cracking game in the Skanska Cup, with BARLA running out 34-16 winners.

A strong BARLA side started well, capitalising on errors, finding gaps on the police edges and running in two quick tries to take a 10-0 lead.

The police adjusted their defence accordingly, picked up the pace and clawed their way back into a fast-flowing game with Adam Newton and GMP's Dan Atherton instrumental in their recovery.

Strong runs by Danny Ambler and Mat Dunn created field position for Newton and Atherton to whip the ball wide for Daz Birch and Steve Williams to link superbly and score.

Solid police defence well led by Mark Elvidge (GMP) and Gary Lowe kept the BARLA team at bay, making it 10-4 at the break.

BARLA took control in the second half to rattle up three tries, assisted by some unusual refereeing decisions, giving them a lead of 28-8.

The police regrouped and Adam Fogarty (GMP) crashed over to score, with Atherton kicking a superb conversion to make it 28-10.

Another good surge forward produced a fine try for Phil Chappell, again converted by Atherton, and then an interception try for BARLA closed the score at 34-16.

The British Police, though beaten by the best amateur team in the land, can be encouraged by their performance in their first competitive game of the season.

POLICE PLAYERS:

Alan Clark (Lancs), Daz Birch (Leicestershire), Mark Elvidge (Rochdale), Mat Dunn (W.Yorks), Dave Edmondson (TAU), Dan Atherton (Rochdale), Adam Newton (W.Yorks), Phil Chappell (W.Yorks), Adam Fogarty (Wigan), Nick Smart (W.Yorks), Steve Williams (Cheshire), Dan Ambler (Lancs), Gary Lowe (Lancs), Paul Riley (W.Yorks), Paul Devine (W.Yorks), Richard Oxley (W.Yorks), Rashid Alawiye (Met), Tom Howden (Met), Gary Johnston (Met), Paul Smith (W.Yorks).

ROAD RUNNERS

Supt Bryan Lawton at Rochdale (ext 68501) is the person to contact for anyone interested in taking part in the first Royton Trail, a 5.5 mile multi-terrain race being organised by Royton Road Runners on Wed, July 18.

It starts at 7.30pm and there are prizes for the first, second and third male and female runners, as well as veteran winners. Advance entry fee is £4 (affiliated) or £6 unattached. It will cost £1 extra on the night.



RUNNING TOTAL: The GMP ladies' veteran team (35-plus) won second place in the Police Sport UK cross-country championships in Norfolk, while the men's veteran team (40-plus) came third. Pictured, from left: Jill Boustead, Joanne Glynn and Ginette Smith.

New runners – both men and women – are always needed for GMP's participation in cross-country events.

For further information and details of future dates, contact Supt Bryan Lawton at Rochdale on extension 68501.

WHEN I WAS OVERTAKEN BY SCOOBY DOO

PC Damieon Pickles (Oldham), a former Halifax Rugby League player, completed the London Marathon – his first – in April in 4hrs 43mins 42 seconds and was placed 15,162nd out of 35,674 runners who finished the race.

"Crossing London Bridge at the halfway mark and having been overtaken by a giant bottle of Budweiser and two Scooby Doo's, I knew it was going to test my strength to the limit," Damieon said.

"With 800 metres to go and an old knee injury threatening to keel me over for the last 10 miles, it took nothing less than grit and determination to cross the line if what was the hottest London Marathon to date."

Top team place (again) for swimmer Ruth



PC Ruth Hoyle holds the trophy for winning the 100m breast stroke at the national police swimming championships. With her are fellow swimmers (from left) Sgt Graham Platt (Claytonbrook OCR), Insp Colette Rose (Oldham), Sgt Joanne Glynn (Tameside) and PC Louise Howarth (Wythenshawe)

FOR the fourth year running, GMP's PC Ruth Hoyle has been selected for the British Police swimming team.

Ruth, of the Public Protection Investigation Unit at Grey Mare Lane, clinched her selection by winning the 50m and 100m breast stroke races at the Police Sport UK swimming championships in Cleveland in April.

She also came second in the 50m butterfly event.

In the women's freestyle relay, the GMP team of Ruth, Colette Rose, Joanne Glynn and Louise Howarth finished in second place.

Joanne and Louise both swam well in the 400m freestyle, as did PC Paul Frith in the finals of the 50m and 100m freestyle events.

Sgt Graham Platt, who retires from GMP this year, swam two good Masters breast stroke races, coming third in both.

Next year's championships are to be held in Coventry and efforts are under way to increase the number of GMP swimmers competing.

Anyone interested should get in touch with organiser Ruth Hoyle at Grey Mare Lane on extensions 63720 or 63703.

League Cup Final

STOCKPORT TAKE THE TROPHY

STOCKPORT won the GMP League Cup at the end of April with a 3-0 win over Oldham at Flixton.

They scored their first goal in the 12th minute when Steve Evans headed in a corner.

Another corner kick soon after nearly brought a second goal, but Al Graham made a saving header on the line.

In the second half, Matt Tarr scored for Stockport on 75 minutes and Jim Lockett got the third almost at the end

Teams:

Stockport – Rose, Chatterton, Draper, Jones, Findlay, Manion, Wraxall, Steve Evans, Jillings, Tarr, Burns, Jackson, Owen, Bryn Evans, Fletcher, Lockett.

Oldham – Hatchell, Graham, McDonall, Prescott, Hall, Bob Whitehead, Coan, Grinrod, Lee Whitehead, Watters, Armitage, Humphries, Hurdley.

Man of the match: Matt Tarr.

Match officials: Dave Moriarty, Ivan Hibbert and Steve Law.



Photos Chris Oldham

No 1 CopperPot Credit Union

Lottery winners

APRIL

- £2,000** - Sheila Larkin, GMP;
- £1,000** - Andrew Smalley, Leics;
- £500** - Haydn Roberts, GMP;
- £250** - Howel Williams, retd; Andrew Wallace, Leics;
- £100** - Michael Grainger, GMP; Thomas Aspey, retd; Jeremy Young, City of London; Samantha Boland, GMP; Victoria Guy, Sussex.
- £50** - Stuart Bailey, retd; Gareth Parkin, GMP; Roger Skene, retd; Kerry Mortell, Leics; Heather Brown, Leics; Peter Clarke, GMP; Margaret Parker, retd; Terence McCabe, retd; Amanda Stables, Cumbria; Jack Fraser, retd; Carl Icely, retd; Stephen Davis, Leics; Derek Broadbent, retd; Joanne Culshaw, North Wales; Deborah Lomax, GMP.

MAY

- £2,000** - Brian Stead, retd;
- £1,000** - David Richardson, retd;
- £500** - Michael Carrick, Thames Valley;
- £250** - Keith Small, Thames Valley; Chris Hollowood, GMP;
- £100** - Colin Heil, GMP; Helen Burton, retd; Simon Lane, Sussex; Kathryn Cornwell, GMP; David Stocking, Lincs.
- £50** - Andrew Stott, GMP; Clare Houghton, relative; Clive Medway, retd; Kevin Darbyshire, Thames Valley; Steven Le Cheminant, GMP; Julie Gibbons, retd; Marian Davies, North Wales; Steven Smith, North Yorks; Lorraine Gallsworthy, GMP; Carl Eves, Norfolk; Anthony Greene, GMP; Barbara Clifton, retd; David Barlow, GMP; Lisa Ogden, GMP; Joy Bradley, Leics.