



**How Charlie helped cockle-pickers tragedy team**

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**The officers armed with a video camera**

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**Winning line-up at the World Cup**

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## United nations

Delegates to the National Black Police Association conference in Manchester last month parade through Moss Side.  
Report and more pictures - Centre Pages

Photo: Chris Oldham

## SHOWING THE ROAD AHEAD

**THE future direction of GMP is being set out by Chief Constable Michael Todd and his deputy, Dave Whatton, at a series of roadshows for officers and staff.**

The roadshows began this month under the title Planning for Change. They will run until early October and are intended to give officers and staff an opportunity to raise issues and ask

questions about the future direction of the Force.

The focus will be on leadership, quality of service and customer contact to continue GMP's success in improving performance and gaining the public's confidence.

"Focusing on these areas will give us tangible benefits – intelligence, satisfaction and partnership with the communities we police," Mr Todd said.

Officers and staff of all ranks and grades are being encouraged to attend the roadshows to ask questions and give their thoughts on how GMP can further improve.

Places can be booked through branch and divisional admin units.

The presentations are being recorded and copies will be made widely available, as will answers to questions raised and other information.

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## THE VIEW FROM THE TOP

GMP is a large force, with millions of people who rely on all of us to keep them safe and allow them to go about their day-to-day business without becoming victims of crime.

We have come a long way in the past few years – we are fighting more crime, protecting more people and continuing to improve our service to the communities of Greater Manchester.

Once again, I am asking all of you to get even smarter in the way you work so that we can make even more performance leaps in the face of challenges such as funding, resources and increasing demand.

We all joined the service to make a difference – we can continue to improve how we do that by recognising the

important contributions of leadership, customer contact and quality of service.

Focusing on these areas will give us tangible benefits – intelligence, satisfaction and partnership with the communities we police.

DCC Dave Whatton and I will be talking about this in more detail at the roadshows which anyone is entitled to attend.

I very much hope to see you there and hear your views as we discuss the way ahead.

*Michael J. Tades.*

### Roadshows from page 1

The first events took place this week at Sedgley Park and Hough End Centre.

The next venue is the Chadderton

Suite at Oldham Civic Centre on Tuesday, September 19, followed by sessions in the Anderton Suite at Hough End on Thursday, September 21, and Monday, October 2. They all start at 2pm.

\* More details about Planning for Change – identifying ways of improving GMP's efficiency and effectiveness - can be found on the Force Intranet via the Force Command pages.

# Putting a STOP to repeat offending

By Tariq Munir

**A SPECIAL group of police, probation officers and youth offending team members has initiated 550 arrests leading to 100 custodial sentences totalling 98 years and 54 years of community-based sentences.**

They are working on Operation STOP – Salford Targeted Offender Project.

The targeting of dozens of Salford's worst repeat offenders has led to a dramatic decrease in crime and an increase in the number of offenders getting support to break out of their life of crime.

Led by Det Sgt Lynn Dickinson, the eight-strong team was established in October 2004 to target the active minority of criminals who

are responsible for the majority of crime.

There were three main aims:

1 - To prevent and deter criminal activity by prolific offenders by making them aware that they are being monitored and picking up any potentially criminal actions early.

2 - Should the target offenders take part in criminal activity, to catch and convict them.

3 - When they have served their sentence, to resettle and rehabilitate them so they do not return to a life of crime.

This third aspect is the most important as it aims to break the cycle of re-

offending by dealing with the personal and social problems of the repeat offenders.

A particular success of the project has been PADRS (Pre-Arrest and Drug Referral Scheme), aimed at prolific offenders who commit crimes to fund their drug habit.

By targeting this active group and prioritising support to help them get off drugs, the team has been able to help cut acquisition crimes such as theft, burglary and robbery.

PADRS is funded by the Salford DAAT (Drugs And Alcohol Team) and has its own dedicated drug worker.



**STOP leader Det Sgt Lynn Dickinson (left) with probation officer Adrian Jones, Youth Offending Team leader Tom Healy and Jane Birch, Criminal Justice co-ordinator.**



## ALL READY FOR THE LABOUR CONFERENCE

(AND 23,000 MEALS)

**THIS month will see GMP policing its biggest and busiest security operation yet, the Labour Party Conference,** writes *Melissa Gill.*

The Operation Protector team has been planning for the event, which runs from September 24 to 28, for more than a year.

Throughout the planning stages, the team has accredited around 18,000 delegates, staff and journalists to the conference and produced some 2,000 special ID cards for police and conference and hotel staff who will be accessing the site.

All partner agencies involved in the conference, along with experts from up and down the country, took part in a table-top exercise at Manchester International Conference Centre at the end of July. The event was a great success, covering scenarios that included protests, problems with accreditation and even a

fire on the city centre 'island site.'

A series of awareness-raising conferences was held for all key agencies involved, where partners were briefed on issues relating to terrorism awareness, suspect packages and the city centre evacuation plan.

The new command and control centre at Sedgley Park is now complete and ready for the team to move in.

Catering for Sedgley Park, Openshaw and the remote vehicle search site at Salford will be provided by GMP catering staff, while the Metropolitan Police Service catering unit will supply food at the island site.

Almost 23,000 meals are expected to be consumed by GMP officers involved in the round-the-clock security operation.

Meanwhile, all officers and staff are reminded to continue to visit the Operation Protector Intranet site for updates about the conference.

## 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)

**Next issue:** October 31  
**Deadline:** October 11

**Published 10 times a year by:** Corporate Communications Branch of Greater Manchester Police

**Designed and Produced by:** Design & Print Services Unit of Greater Manchester Police Tel: 0161 856 0843

**Brief can be read on the web at:**  
[www.gmp.police.uk/mainsite/pages/brief.htm](http://www.gmp.police.uk/mainsite/pages/brief.htm)

## From the Brief files

### 30 YEARS AGO

As GMP was faced with the loss of the Cadet Corps as a result of Government cuts in spending, voluntary cadet schemes were launched in Wigan, Stockport and Oldham. The first was at Wigan where 29 cadets – 18 girls and 11 boys – underwent instruction every Thursday night.

### 20 YEARS AGO

Chief Constable James Anderton became President of the Association of Chief Police Officers and Councillor Stephen Murphy was elected chairman of Greater Manchester Police Authority.

### 10 YEARS AGO

GMP became the first police force in the UK to launch an education package on drink and drugs in the workplace.

Drug prevention officers went on tour with a CD-Rom and a display box of dummy drugs.

# Street where THREE houses grew cannabis

ON one street in Prestwich, three houses were found by officers to have been set aside purely for the production of cannabis.

More than 2,000

growing plants were discovered and seized.

The breakthrough in Albert Avenue came at the start of Operation Saluki, a 12-month drugs crackdown ordered by

Bury Division's new Commander, Ch Supt David Anthony. At another house in Bury, officers uncovered crack cocaine worth at least £10,000, a stack of amphetamines

and 36 blocks of cannabis resin. In addition, searches elsewhere on the division resulted in Class A drugs such as ecstasy being found.

In total, the haul of

drugs represented one of the biggest ever recorded in the Bury area.

In the first five weeks of the operation, there were nine arrests, with more pending, and 13 warrants executed.

Operation Saluki is being backed, financially and in other ways, by Bury Drug and Alcohol Action Team.

Insp Bill Mundy said it had been a 'fantastic' start to the campaign.

The operation follows new drug enforcement laws brought in at the end of last year that allow police to drug-test people arrested for acquisitive crimes such as theft and burglary.

Four people in every 10 tested in this way at Bury have shown positive for opiates and cocaine.

Tactics employed under Operation Saluki range from early morning raids to simple knock-and-enter searches.



**RECORD HAUL:** from left, Insp Bill Mundy, Catherine Nugent, of Bury Drug and Alcohol Action Team, and Ch Supt David Anthony with some of the cannabis uncovered at houses in Prestwich.



**CRASH COURSE:** Police were called after a woman who was nervous about taking her driving test crashed through a wall and ran over the examiner as she arrived at the test centre in Calgary, Canada. The test was cancelled.

**LOVE CALL:** A woman who dialled 911, the American equivalent of 999, to ask a police officer for a date (he'd called on her to investigate a noise complaint) was arrested in Aloha, Oregon, for misusing the emergency call system.

**MUM'S THE WORD:** An armed robber rang his mother on his mobile phone when he was cornered by police in Sao Paulo, Brazil, during a raid. She talked him into surrendering.

**FRIENDS DISUNITED:** A woman left a friend as security for unpaid-for petrol in Muenchberg, Germany, but never returned. When it was realised after two hours that she wasn't coming back, police went and arrested her and charged her with theft.

**HOT DOG:** Police tailing a suspect in Cedar City, Utah, said the pursuit ended when the man's dog, enraged at getting slammed into the window as the car suddenly picked up speed, attacked him and bit off part of his nose.

**TACKLING DISORDER:** More than 70 Russian police who responded to reports of a gang fighting in a field near Rostov-on-Don arrested 100 people before discovering they had been playing rugby. The men were reprimanded for not informing the police and released.

**SNOOZE ALARM:** Two petrol attendants in Zrenjanin, Serbia, dozed as thieves stole a heavy safe containing £31,500, even though, according to police, the gang made enough noise to wake the dead.

**BEAR FACED:** Like Goldilocks in reverse, a woman called police in Vancouver, Canada, after arriving home to find a bear scoffing porridge in her kitchen. It had got in through an open door and broken into a container of oatmeal.

**BOOKED:** An armed robber who held up more than 30 betting shops in Zagreb, Croatia, was arrested after he returned to one of them to place a bet.

**QUICK CHANGE:** A suspected bank robber stopped at a Western store after a raid in Fort Worth, Texas, and escaped in cowboy clothes, leaving behind a baseball cap and polo shirt before boarding a bus.

**CHIMNEY PIECE:** Police in Maastricht, Holland, caught a burglar after he fell down a chimney while escaping over the roof of a house he had just broken into.

## CSIs win the prizes (again)

**F**ORENSIC science staff in GMP have walked away yet again with top prizes from the National Training Centre for Scientific Support to Crime Investigation.

At a ceremony at Durham Castle in July, Rochdale CSI **Katy Wiggett** received the award as Student of the Year on the Volume

Crime Scene Investigator Conversion Course.

The 'conversion' is from volume crime scene to all crime scenes investigation.

Oldham CSI **Linda Shackleton** was Refresher Course Student of the Year and winner of the Forensic Science Service Award.

Nearly every police force in England and Wales subscribes to these

courses, and Katy and Linda are the latest in a line of GMP staff who have won the awards.

At the same ceremony, three CSIs received their Durham University Diplomas in Crime Scene Investigation – **Christine Jenkins** (South Manchester), **Shaun Wood** (Manchester Metropolitan) and **Rob Flynn** (Stockport).



Manchester City Centre Crime Prevention Panel has funded production of a Retail Intelligence Log for members of the city's Retail Crime Operation to record intelligence and other data in standardised format.

Self-carbonating pages mean one copy can be kept by the retail security officer and the other going to the RCO manager, who can then liaise with city centre police.

Crime Reduction Adviser PC Stuart Pizzey, who is secretary of the Panel, designed the booklets.

"The Panel has again shown support in a key area that will allow for retailers, the Retail Crime Operation and the police to link in a more co-ordinated manner," he said.

Stuart has also designed door stickers (pictured right) that have been distributed on North Manchester Division.

The move came after 150 flats were burgled in six months by thieves using insecure doors or following residents into apartment blocks.

Burglars are being unwittingly helped by residents, who often hold communal doors open for them in the belief they live there but have lost their keys.

Entrances now have stickers with the message: 'Keep this front door secure. Ensure you know who you are letting in. Your home may be at risk from thieves.'

The stickers have been funded by the City Centre Crime Prevention Panel.



# Letters of Appreciation

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

## WE ARE LUCKY TO HAVE A SEX ASSAULT CENTRE

AFTER my daughter phoned in great distress from Greece, I was taken seriously by the CID at Wythenshawe and my own distress was met with a kind and practical response. My partner and I received good advice to pass on to our daughter and the officers themselves also tried to contact her. At no point did

anyone suggest it did not concern the police here as she was out of the country, nor that they would have to wait to hear from my daughter herself.

When she returned to Manchester, officers saw her as soon as they could. **Det Con Shagufta Khan** and **Det Con Nigel Smith** spoke to me,

and again they were not only kind but efficient.

Our greatest thanks go to **Det Con Ceri Naylor**, who took a statement from my daughter, accompanied her to St Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre and then conducted a video interview.

I didn't know that we were so lucky in Manchester to benefit

from services second to none for women who have been sexually assaulted.

Ceri spent hours with and on behalf of my daughter, and yet she never made us feel rushed or that she had something more important to do.

Her humanity shone through – and we appreciate, too, her coming to our house in plain

clothes and in an unmarked car.

The high standard of care we had from Ceri is unlikely to exist in isolation. It suggests effective training, selection and team work.

Thank you all very much. I cannot speak highly enough of the service you have given us.

*M.B.,  
Northenden*

### PRAISE FOR PCSOs

THE tenants of Shepway Court at Winton, Eccles, have asked me to express their appreciation of the time, effort, enthusiasm and help given to them on a regular basis by **PCSO Jane Gough**. **Jane** and **PC Jackie McKenzie**, before she left, have helped to give the tenants, half of whom are over 80, a real sense of security.

*Joyce Smith,  
Secretary.*

AS residents of North Reddish, we would like to commend the dedication of **PCSO John Gallagher**, who has worked tirelessly to ensure the respect of both adults and children.

We hope to have him as our local bobby for some time to come, and we are sure he will make progress with those who are still stubborn.

North Reddish is a better place to live thanks to the participation of John and his new PCSO colleague with the children.

The children have become accustomed to them and trust them, and we don't want to go back to how it was before their intervention.

*The People of North Reddish.*

**(Last month's Brief reported how John Gallagher had secured funding to open a youth club in North Reddish).**

MAY I thank the officers of Atherton Police Station for their sterling work in the community. I would especially like to mention **PCSO Neil Fallows**, who is becoming a permanent fixture on his bicycle around Atherton, always on the lookout for criminals and children misbehaving. He is always pleasant and is like a breath of fresh air around the area. He should be seen as the benchmark that other PCSOs should strive to achieve.

*Joyce Evans,  
by e-mail.*

### HOW IT SHOULD BE DONE

I AM a serving officer in Northumbria's Traffic Department and wish to compliment you on the recent TV programme about your vehicle crime unit. It is excellent to see how it should be done!

I only wish we would adopt such a good approach within our force. The public should appreciate how much effort is being put in by GMP.

*S.H.,  
Coxhoe,  
Co Durham, by e-mail.*

IF only other police services were as professional as you boys and girls, the world would be a safer place.

*Gareth Preston,  
Pont-y-pool. Gwent, by e-mail.*

### YOU HELPED MY COMEBACK

IN MAY last year, a colleague and I were assaulted during the course of an arrest. I received an injury which forced me to report sick. The assault hit me hard, and I would like to thank all those involved in assisting my recovery, in particular **Malcolm Smith**, Senior Welfare Officer at Sedgley Park, **Sgt Richard Thorpe**, patrol sergeant at Pendleton, all the staff at the Northern Police Convalescent Home in Harrogate and all of E Relief at F2. Without their help, I would not be back at work now.

*PC Paul Twiss,  
Pendleton.*

### AN EXTRAORDINARY OFFICER

**PC Tanya Montgomery** came to see us about an incident of violent and threatening behaviour towards my wife by our neighbour. I have nothing but gratitude for the way she has not only dealt with the

situation (which has become more serious following an arson attack), but also the support she has given and the way she always delivers on her promises. I am grateful we have had the chance to work with such an extraordinary and exemplary officer.

*G.H.,  
Bramhall.*

### TOP MARKS FOR SCHOOL WORK

WE invited a representative from Chorlton police to our multi-agency meeting. It was a great success and we were able to plan appropriate actions to support some of our more vulnerable pupils.

**PC Ceri Davies** presented relevant information in an eloquent, professional manner, which enabled us to put in place some support programmes that will benefit some of our children socially and emotionally.

*Toni Elliott,  
Deputy Headteacher,  
Barlow Hall Primary School.*

ON behalf of the children and staff, I would like to thank **PC Scott Hatchell** for giving up his spare time to show the children all about how police dogs work and behave. The children enjoyed spending time with him and watching the tasks that Kyle and Drey did, and by allowing the children to ask questions, Scott enabled them to learn more about the work of a police officer and the police dogs in a fun and exciting way.

*Mrs T. Kayley,  
Year One Teaching Assistant,  
St Thomas Moorside C.E. Primary School, Sholver, Oldham.*

MANY thanks to **Abida Niaz**, Community and Race Relations Officer, for making our Complementary Studies Day

such a success. The pupils have spoken most favourably about their experiences, and I hope you will consider delivering something similar next year.

*Rebecca Paul,  
St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School, Ashton-in-Makerfield.*

### GREAT SUPPORT

MY wife and I would like to thank **Det Con Kath McKenzie**, Tameside Child Protection Unit, for the hard work she undertook investigating a difficult case in which we were victims and witnesses. She provided great support to us during a traumatic 18 months, helping us to come to terms with what happened.

*R.B.,  
Audenshaw.*

A DELICATE and distressing court case involved our daughter and a family member. But due to hard work by **Det Sgt Julie Kay** and **Det Cons Kath McKenzie** and **Declan O'Reilly**, of the Family Support Unit at Ashton-under-Lyne, we came through what has been one of life's worst experiences.

We would also like to thank the staff of Witness Care at Ashton, mostly **Sarah MacFarlane**, who also made the ordeal more bearable.

*Mrs & Mrs D.P.,  
Dukinfield.*

### COMPLIMENTARY

I WRITE to thank officers from the Fraud Investigation team of the GMP Economic Crime Section for the support given to an operation between the Serious Fraud Office and West Midlands Police to address high-value commercial loan fraud.

The support was invaluable, given the challenges of resourcing

18 sites nationally. The feedback at debrief was extremely complimentary towards the professionalism displayed by **Det Cons Graham Lyne, Kate Rowlands, Andy Walker, Ian Woodward** and **Dave Wilson**.

*Det Insp Simon Wallis,  
Economic Crime Unit,  
West Midlands Police.*

### A CREDIT TO GMP

MY wife had the misfortune to be subjected to verbal abuse by a neighbour which caused her considerable distress as she was at home with our children while I was away at work.

On my advice, she rang Wigan police. The call handler listened to her complaint in a sympathetic and sensitive manner and told my wife that an officer would call to see her. **PC Gareth Humphreys** duly attended, explaining the options available and speaking to the other party until the incident was concluded to our satisfaction.

My sincere thanks go to PC Humphreys and the call handler, **Marilyn Adams**, Leigh Operational Communications Room. Both are a credit to GMP.

*I.W.,  
Orrell.*

### A SYMPATHETIC EAR

IN the early hours, we had the misfortune to be confronted with thieves on our premises. It was particularly traumatic for my wife, who came face to face with one of the burglars. **PC Vicky Bailey**, who attended the incident, displayed a helpful, calming attitude and provided a friendly, sympathetic ear. The trauma of confronting criminals in your own home cannot easily be put into words, but PC Bailey managed to help us through while performing her duties as a police officer.

*Tony Rose,  
Woodsmoor, Stockport*

## SAFER HANDLING OF PRISONERS

By Insp Stephen Pennington

**IF prisoners are poorly dealt with after arrest, will that make them more cooperative or less cooperative when interviewed?**

This simple question explains to operational officers the importance of new procedures concerning the care of prisoners in police custody.

Maximising the opportunities for detections and providing victims with a better quality of justice underpins the standards outlined in the Safer Handling of Detained Persons in Police Custody doctrine which was unveiled earlier this year.

The doctrine sets out the best practice procedures and roles and responsibilities that should be adopted in the custody process.

It introduces a streamlined, clearly defined process and documents who should be doing what at each stage.

It's about minimising risks to prisoners, but it also brings benefits when interviews are carried out and will reduce the time an officer spends in the custody office.

### EXPERIENCE

The doctrine draws on the experiences of police officers across the UK to outline the framework within which the police and other agencies must operate. At Force level, it ensures processes are straightforward and understandable and gives officers the confidence that what they are doing is right.

For a start, it does not just apply to those officers and staff who work in custody, but covers the whole detention process from initial arrest. All of us have a part to play in ensuring the police service fulfils its duty of care to those it takes into custody.

Particularly in dealing with vulnerable and young people, we need to ensure their needs are catered for and that they have a positive impression of how we work.

### RISKS

All officers and staff involved in the custody process need to be aware of their responsibilities and to recognise risks to the prisoner's wellbeing.

Force Custody Management, based at Trafford House, is responsible for the actions which are put in place to ensure the Force is fully compliant with the doctrine.

The full document can be read on the Doctrine site on the GMP Intranet or in hard copy format available in custody offices.

A searchable Frequently Asked Questions section on the S Division Intranet site has been launched and is now available to answer queries from officers and staff. Initially this site will focus on custody related issues.

A shortcut link to the site is on the Operational Information section of the Force Intranet.

## WE WOULD HAVE STRUGGLED WITHOUT CHARLIE'S HELP, SAYS TEAM LEADER



**VALUABLE ASSET:** Det Con Kwok Chee (Charlie) Cheung, second from left, with Lancashire colleagues who travelled to China as part of the Morecambe Bay tragedy investigation. Picture courtesy of Lancashire Constabulary.

# Praise for Chinese detective who aided sea tragedy team

**WHEN** police investigating the Morecambe Bay deaths of 21 Chinese cockle pickers wanted expert assistance, they turned to GMP and Det Con Kwok Chee Cheung.

The officer, known to colleagues as Charlie, joined the team for what was expected to be three or four days.

He ended up being seconded to Lancashire Constabulary for more than two years.

Charlie is now back with GMP, working in the Force Intelligence Bureau, with a commendation from Lancashire's Acting Chief Constable, Steve Finnigan, praising his 'professionalism and diligence.'

The inquiry would have struggled without the services of Charlie, the senior investigating officer, Det Supt Mick Bradwell, said.

With Charlie as interpreter and protocol guide, teams of Lancashire officers made two trips to China.

The first centred on identifying the drowned victims through interviews with grieving relatives and the use of DNA.

The second visit included gathering evidence from the families of the defendants and others.

Originally, there were 2,500 witnesses, but this figure was reduced to 800 and finally, when the case came to court, to 250.

During the investigation, Operation Lund, there was a murder in Manchester's Chinatown that required Charlie's interpretation skills.

"For several weeks, I spent one day a week back with GMP and the rest of the time with Lancashire," said Charlie, who was based at Bolton before his secondment.

\* Earlier this year, the Chinese organiser of the cockle pickers was jailed for 14 years at Preston Crown Court after being convicted of 21 manslaughter charges, facilitating illegal immigration and perverting the course of justice.

His girlfriend was jailed for two years nine months for perverting the course of justice and his cousin for four years.

Two men from Liverpool were acquitted of facilitating illegal immigration.

### CHARLIE THE FIRST

**Kwok Chee Cheung was the first Chinese officer to join GMP in 1994 (there are now 13) after 12 years with the Royal Hong Kong Police.**

**He believes he is the only Chinese police officer in the UK who speaks Mandarin. This is the official language of China, as opposed to Cantonese, which is based on local dialects.**

**Charlie's language skill proved invaluable to the Morecambe Bay inquiry team because not only did the main Chinese witnesses speak Mandarin, but Charlie and the Lancashire officers made two formal visits to China.**

## PROSPECTS FOR 2007

APPLICATIONS for the 2007 intake for GMP's Prospects scheme are being sought from November.

The scheme identifies and develops police staff who are not members of a senior management team and police officers up to inspector rank who have the potential to be future leaders.

It looks for those who have the energy and motivation to develop the wide range of skills needed to be a senior leader in GMP.

The application process starts on November 3 with a formal launch by Chief Constable Michael Todd in the chapel at Sedgley Park, starting at 9.30am.

The application form and

guidance will be available on the Leadership Programme Intranet site from November 1, with completed applications to be in by November 27.

Two changes have been made to the application and selection process.

To encourage more police staff, it is guaranteed that at least half the places will be offered to them.

Applicants can also attend a pre-application workshop that will give guidance on completing the application form, as well as details about the selection process itself.

These will be held at a variety of places across the Force between November 6-14 and will also be publicised on the Intranet.

# Domestic abuse – a new guide

**A**N updated guide for operational officers in GMP dealing with cases of domestic abuse – as domestic violence is now known – is being circulated.

It has been drawn up by Det Con Jayne Marsh, Staff Officer in the Public Protection Section.

Of particular importance, says Jayne, is a 12-point list of information that must be recorded in every Forcewide message (FWIN), including a risk assessment.

There is also a 21-point critical evidence checklist to aid officers in their on-the-spot investigation and various helpline phone numbers.

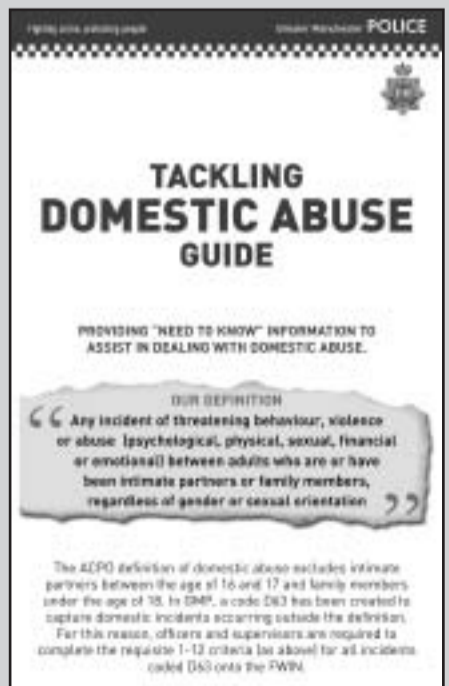
One reason why domestic violence has been redefined as domestic abuse is that, from a police standpoint, it covers a wider field than just physical violence.

The definition adopted by GMP is: *Any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexual orientation.*

The Association of Chief Police Officers' definition of domestic abuse excludes intimate partners between 16 and 17 and family members under 18. In GMP, a special code has been created to capture domestic incidents occurring outside the definition.

\* Officers can obtain a copy of the updated guide from their divisional Public Protection inspectors.

\* GMP's policy on domestic abuse can be found on the Force Intranet under Force Information, then go to the list under Force Policy.



# Gun smugglers get 77 years



Det Ch Insp Paul Savill with the recovered guns: "Potential murders have been prevented."

## ARMED CRIME OFFICERS SWOOP AS WEAPONS ARE BEING UNCOVERED

By Lucy Hird

**IN an operation by GMP's Armed Crime Unit, five men have been jailed for a total of 77 years following one of the largest single seizures of firearms imported into the UK.**

Officers from the unit recovered 30 German-made pistols, 30 silencers and 1,220 rounds of ammunition that had been smuggled in a Volvo car from Lithuania to Manchester via Poland and Germany.

The firearms were being removed from under a false floor in the car at Trafford Autos, off Edge Lane, Stretford, when

armed officers raided the premises.

Det Ch Insp Paul Savill, who led the investigation, Operation Greenway, said: "I have no doubt the seizure has prevented crime, including potential murder.

"The guns we recovered would appeal to people involved in some of the gangs that exist in areas of Greater Manchester since they are easy to conceal, they discharge at least five bullets without the need to reload and they were supplied with real ammunition.

The defendants, two from Lithuania, were sentenced at Manchester Crown Court in July on charges of conspiracy to import firearms and conspiracy to possess firearms with intent to enable others to endanger life.

### SENTENCES

Marius Renke, 26, from Klaipeda, Lithuania was jailed for 18 years. Anton Vaisnoras, 25, also from Klaipeda, was sentenced to 14 years.

Dawson Wray, 31, of Eccles, received 11 years 6 months and James Parker, 24, of Coventry, got 13 years 6 months. All four pleaded guilty.

Richard Saltmarsh, 27, of Coventry, was found guilty at an earlier hearing and jailed for 20 years.

A third Lithuanian who drove the car across Europe but

claimed he didn't know what was in it was found not guilty at that hearing.

The car was driven from Lithuania, through Poland and Germany to Cuxhaven, where it was brought to the UK via ferry to Harwich in August last year.

It was then driven to Coventry and the two Lithuanians arrived in England by air the same day.

Next day, Marius Renke drove the Volvo from Wray's home in Eccles to Trafford Autos, followed by Parker and Wray in a Ford Focus.

At the garage, Renke, who had fitted the false floor, set to work removing the front seats to gain access to the secret compartments.

As he and the others were uncovering the weapons, armed officers moved in and arrested them. Vaisnoras was detained at a phone box nearby.

# The graduates

**ELEVEN members of GMP graduated from Bolton University in the summer either with a Post-Graduate Certificate in Education or a Certificate in Education, which allows them to teach in higher, further or adult education.**

The qualification is the same depending on whether the recipient already has a degree.

The course has been run by Bolton University at Sedgley Park for the past three years and organised by staff from Communications

and Specialist Training.

The 11 who attended the university ceremony were the Force's most recent graduates. They had completed either a one-year or two-year course, depending on previous experience, one evening a week.

The graduates were: PC Paula Collins and Dennis Norris, Communications and Specialist Training; PC Jed Hutton, Initial Police Learning and Development Programme; PC Chris MacKenzie, Headquarters Crime Reduction Adviser; Deborah Keelan, Salford



**QUALIFIED TO TEACH: from left, Chris MacKenzie, Peter McLoughlin, Andy Mclean, Andy Harrison, Paul Collins and Dennis Norris.**

Crime Reduction Adviser; Margaret Haydock, OPUS Training; Det Sgts Andy Harrison, Andy Mclean and Peter McLoughlin,

Bradford Park; Ch Insp John Sargeson, Chester House, and Barry Dickinson, who recently retired from Crime Training.

# Warning - we're putting you on video

**AS one of Trafford's most prolific street offenders came out of a shop, PC Rick Hadfield and PC Elaine Garrigan, both in plain clothes, were waiting.**

They handed him a letter - which had been approved by the Force Solicitor - telling him he was being placed under surveillance. Then the surveillance began...on video.

Rick and Elaine, of Trafford Division's Operational Policing Unit, are running a unique initiative. It is the first of its kind in GMP and possibly, they say, in the country.

Based on current intelligence, the two officers target suspects and those recently released from prison by videoing them, editing the footage and then making the film available to fellow officers at electronic briefings, often within the same day.

It means that officers get an up-to-the minute moving image of 'targets' rather than having to rely on a name, a description or a

photo that is normally out of date.

A library of 150 targets has been compiled by the two Stretford intelligence officers, who trained themselves in video editing by studying a 350-page manual that is supplied to all divisions.

## 'THEY NEVER KNOW WHEN WE'LL POP UP'

Rick says that what he and Elaine are doing could be termed 'psychological policing' - because the people they video 'never know when we are going to pop up.'

All those they film across the division have been identified through current police intelligence.

"They range from persistent young offenders to people known to be at risk of offending," Elaine said.

Rick and Elaine's work has led to further intelligence gathering, either as a result of home visits or through the identification of associates.

In turn, that has helped to solve a number of cross-border crimes, such as offenders who travelled from Wythenshawe on South Manchester Division to burgle homes in the Hale area of Trafford.

Prisoners with Trafford addresses are videoed - and presented with the same warning letter - on their release from jail.

## FOOTAGE CAN BE READY THE SAME AFTERNOON

"We have videoed them at 9am and had the footage ready for the briefing that afternoon," Elaine said.

Their work helps to familiarise patrols with the ex-prisoners,



Picture: Bill Morris

**PC Elaine Garrigan and PC Rick Hadfield have compiled a bank of 150 targets through video surveillance.**

whose appearance may have changed almost beyond recognition while they have been inside, she said.

Released prisoners, apparently, have raised few objections.

They are just relieved, said Rick, to find that he and Elaine are not at the prison door to re-arrest them, but simply to warn them that they could be subject to video surveillance.

Elaine and Rick's video expertise is also used in filming people on the division who are made the subject of Asbos. Again, showing moving images at briefings is better than a still photo, they say.

Police stations across Trafford now show 'Asbo TV,' a continuous DVD of Asbo targets

and the conditions imposed on them.

The two officers had the idea of starting directed, intelligence-led surveillance videoing after being sent out with cameras last year on what was known as 'deterrent filming.'

This is now directed and targeted via Trafford's daily meetings and its monthly Tactical Tasking and Co-ordinating Group meeting.

## EVERY DIVISION COULD DO VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

They were given backing to pursue their idea by Insp Donna Allen, Manager of the divisional Operational Policing Unit, who says she would like to see a

Forcewide unit established with officers dedicated to every division

"It is an innovative system that has been developed through Rick and Elaine's perseverance and it needs to be shared," Insp Allen said.

"Every division has this intelligence-based capability, but we are the only division doing it.

"It is now reaping dividends and no area should be without one."

Other divisions and units have shown interest, but so far no one has come up with a way of transmitting Trafford's surveillance movies of suspects, ex-prisoners and Asbo subjects to other divisions.



Insp Donna Allen: "Every division should have one."

## BECOME A SCHOOL GOVERNOR

By Christine Joyce, HR Branch

**SCHOOLS are changing - and so are governing bodies. The autonomy that schools now have in running their own affairs means your work skills and experience are increasingly valuable when applied in schools.**

Police officers and police

staff in GMP are being encouraged to sign up as governors by the School Governors' One-Stop Shop (SGOSS).

With a choice of nursery, primary or secondary schools, SGOSS works with local education authorities to place you in a local school that needs your help most. No special skills

are required, just energy and enthusiasm, since training courses will be offered locally once you are signed up.

A team from the School Governors' One-Stop Shop will be visiting the canteen at GMP headquarters on September 27 and the canteen at Sedgley Park Centre on September 28 from 11.30am to 2pm to encourage staff to become governors.

Becoming a governor offers the chance to

develop new skills in a new environment, exposing you to issues such as budget management, curriculum issues and facilities management.

Governors are seen as critical friends of the school, often challenging ideas and raising standards of education. This is a high-level opportunity, one in which a confident team worker can influence the school as a whole.

Andrew Marston, Assistant Chief Officer, HR and Development, who has been a school governor of a large high school for several years, said:

"It has been a challenging and rewarding experience and it is a chance to give something back to the local community."

You do not have to be a parent to get involved. In fact, all state schools need governors with no connection to the school.

On average, they need to attend evening meetings two or three times per term. SGOSS has governor vacancy lists for a number of schools in Greater Manchester, and potential applicants will be able to select a shortlist.

\* Christine Joyce is working with SGOSS to recruit governors. Potential applicants can speak with her or email Christine.Joyce@HQ/GMP to register an interest - or turn up to one of the drop-in sessions.

# PRIZE DAY

## Bid winner Aruna gets an insight into work of Scientific Services

**“I WAS very surprised at how many women work in the department as I thought it would be male dominated,” said Aruna Shaw after spending a day with GMP’s Scientific Services staff at Bradford Park.**

The ‘prize day’ was offered by the Director, Dr Peter Hall, as part of the branch’s activities promoting community understanding of this area of police work.

Aruna, an accountant and freelance photographer, won the day when it was auctioned by Crime Scene Investigation Unit Manager Kate Salesse at a Diwali party in Bolton.

Aruna’s bid of £110 was donated to the Mayor of Bolton’s appeal to help survivors of last year’s Pakistan-India earthquake, which killed 80,000 people and left more than three million homeless.

Her day at Bradford Park, organised by Head of Technical Services Pat Davies, included being shown how to chemically enhance and photograph fingerprints, 360-degree photography, E-fit compilation, digital image manipulation and injury reconstruction techniques.

Aruna, of Bolton, said afterwards: “It was worth every penny of my bid.”



**WINNING VISIT: Aruna Shaw at Bradford Park with Crime Scene Investigation Unit Manager Kate Salesse and Pat Davies, Head of Technical Services.**

**T**HE appeal to help victims of the Pakistan-India earthquake has received more than £3,500 thanks to curry kitchens and collections organised by Abida Niaz, Wigan Division’s Community and Race Relations Officer.

Abida set up curry days at St Nathaniel’s Church, Wigan, and Leigh Ethnic Centre, with food donated by Chilli Magic at Bolton and the Leigh Balti House.

A donation from a Wigan mosque,

Masjid Tooba, and collections and donations in Rochdale and Prestwich organised by volunteers Zarif Khan, Sultan Mahmood and Kulsum Khan took the total to £3,537.25.

The money was presented at Wigan Divisional HQ to Dr Mohammed Nasir, of Light4Life, which is working in the disaster area with other doctors from the UK.

He is pictured with, among others, Abida Niaz (far left), Insp Glenn Jones and, on the right, Insp Brendan Emmett (Diversity and Partnerships).



# Fabian joins flying squad and saves himself £7,000

**THE three weeks Det Con Fabian Lord spent in Florida had nothing to do with soaking up the sun.**

He was there to learn how to fly and gain his private pilot’s licence.

Many people have an interest in flying, but few go to the extent of making a 10,000-mile round trip to fulfil

their ambition.

“Though it was a novel experience learning to fly in a different country, it was far from an easy ride,” Fabian said.

He attended the Ormond Beach Aviation Flight School, which specialises in helping students attain a high standard of piloting skills in a short period.

“I’ve always had a keen interest in flying,” the Bootle Street detective said.

“The difficulty arose in achieving a balance between the busy environment of city centre policing, spending time with my family and finding sufficient time to learn to fly.”

He said many flight schools in the UK charge up to £10,000 for a basic package to obtain a private pilot’s licence.

“Ormond Beach Aviation offered a guaranteed pass including a radiotelephony licence and night rating for a third of UK prices,” he said.

“But it was by no means a holiday. There were several course textbooks to study and several written and practical exams to pass.

“I wanted time to breath and enjoy my training, so I read most of the course textbooks before starting.”

He said the flying training began with basic aircraft and flight control awareness and lasted about five hours.

initially had a problem with climbing but this soon subsided.

“Then followed the realisation that every time I went airborne, I had to come back down again. So I very quickly had to learn how to become proficient at safe landings.

“The training continued during several cross-country flights with an instructor before I was let loose alone in airspace.

“My first solo flight was an experience I’ll never forget. But it was comforting to remember that, as with our OCR staff, the air traffic control was at the end of the radio and there was always someone to help.”

Fabian says he will return to the Florida flight school next year to gain a multi-engine rating.

“To anyone wishing to take up flying training, I would seriously recommend they consider the US,” Fabian said. “It’s cheaper, more relaxed and the sun shines most of the time.

“There is a process to follow with a US visa application and medical, but these pose few problems.”

### ‘I’m not keen on heights’

“It is usually during this time that you lose your fears of being at 3,000 feet,” Fabian said. “I’m not very keen on heights and

**Anyone interested in following Fabian’s flight path can contact him on extension 68331 at Bootle Street or by e-mail.**



**FLYING OFFICER: Det Con Fabian Lord in Florida.**

## Buried with full police honours

# 500 pay tribute to fallen officer

Report: Derek Hornby, Pictures: Chris Oldham

**THE police motorcyclists who accompanied the funeral cortege were saying farewell to one of their own.**

More than 300 colleagues attended the July funeral service for motorcycle officer PC Allan Shaw, who was buried with full police honours.

Five of the seven riders who escorted the cortege to St Oswald's Church at Ashton-in-Makerfield, near Wigan, were on a practice exercise with the 33-year-old officer when he was killed in a collision with a parked lorry at Astley Bridge, Bolton.

Family mourners were led by the officer's widow, Kerrie-Ann, 30, and his parents, Ann and Graham Shaw. There was standing room only in the church, which seats 500.

Eulogies were given by Deputy Chief Constable Dave Whatton and PC Shaw's friend and colleague, PC Rob Longman, who had accompanied the hearse and was with him when he died.

Floral tributes spelling PC5215, Brother, Our Son and Daddy formed part of the cortege.

The family had requested that flowers from sympathisers should be blue and white to reflect PC Shaw's long enthusiasm for Everton FC.

The club sent a letter of condolence and said a shirt signed by the team would be sent to his two-year-old daughter, Lillie-Mae.

PC Shaw was a member of GMP's Area 2 Road Policing Unit based at Plant Hill, North Manchester.

He joined GMP in August 1999, serving for four years on patrol on Salford Division before becoming one of the Force's specialist motorcycle officers three years ago.

### 14TH TO DIE ON DUTY

PC Shaw was the first Greater Manchester officer to be killed on duty since the murder in January 2003 of Det Con Stephen Oake and the 14th since the formation of GMP in 1974.

After the service, PC Shaw was buried in the churchyard of St Oswald's, less than a mile from his home.

*His name will now be added to the memorial in the grounds of*



*Sedgley Park Centre to GMP officers whose lives have been taken, either deliberately or accidentally, in the course of duty.*

The seven officers who escorted the cortege were:

PC Longman (solo rider with the hearse), PC Nigel Poole, PC Jaymes Smirthwaite, PC Mark Smirthwaite, PC Leigh Rickett, PC Antony Chesters and PC Francis Horridge, with Sgt Barry Fairclough as guard of honour commander and officer in charge overall.

## THE LAST NAME TO BE CALLED

PC Allan Shaw died three days before the fourth annual remembrance weekend organised by COPS (Care of Police Survivors) took place at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire.

The tragic timing of his passing meant that his name was the last one to be read out in a roll call of officers who had died on duty in the 12 months since the previous remembrance service.

Fellow motorcycle officer PC Paul Bushby, of Area 3 Road Policing Unit at Rochdale, had volunteered to represent GMP at the ceremony several weeks before PC Shaw's death.

"There was a short service for the officers who had lost their lives in the past year and Allan's was the final name to be read out in the roll of honour," Paul said.

"Being a friend of his, it made me really proud to be there and to represent the Force."

Some 157 members of 53 families of UK police officers killed in the line of duty over the years attended the service.



They were accompanied by a police motorcycle escort to the arboretum, where trees are planted in memory of fallen officers.

Then came a cavalcade of more than 100 motorbikes led by the police motorcycle group the Blue Knights, who have raised thousands of pounds for charity.

The Blue Knights raised £1,000 for COPS over the memorial weekend.



## ABC learning will save more than £11,000 a year

**A NEW interactive guide about Activity Based Costing (ABC) is on the GMP Intranet.**

Previously, Corporate Development and Performance Branch researcher David Cornwell carried out training on each division and in some specialised units.

Now an e-learning package (delivered via the Force Intranet) has been compiled so that officers and staff understand the importance of their roles in Forcewide ABC surveys, David said.

"The graphics are animated to help understand what ABC is for, why we are

doing it, and what the benefits are at both Force and divisional level," he said.

"By using e-learning, there will be a cost saving to the Force of more than £11,600 a year in officer time.

"There will also be efficiency savings in officers not having to travel to a training venue, which previously could take up to two hours of their time."

Benefits of ABC include:

- \* Divisional commanders can make better use of their resources;
- \* Police Authorities and forces can

identify how resources are being used and make efficiency improvements;

\* Accountability is increased and gaps between resource usage and priorities identified, allowing better comparison between forces.

The package, developed with an external company, Pennant, can be accessed by the Corporate Development and Performance website and clicking on the ABC icon.

\* For further information and advice, contact David Cornwell on ext 62617.



**MANCHESTER welcomed 600 police officers and other law enforcement delegates last month to the National Black Police Association conference.**

It was the first time in 34 years that the event had been held outside North America.

The gathering at the Manchester International Conference Centre was jointly organised by the US and UK arms of the NBPA and

GMP's own Black and Asian Police Association.

A highlight of the five-day conference, which GMP supported financially, was a parade through Moss Side by hundreds of uniformed delegates from all over the world.

They were joined on the two-mile walk by Chief Constable Michael Todd, ACC Rob Taylor, Police Authority chairman Derek Osbaldestin, colleagues from forces

throughout the UK and local people.

The parade ended with a memorial service to NBPA members in the UK, United States and Canada killed in the line of duty.

As each name was read out, there was a response call of "Absent!"

Traditionally, there have been parades through black communities in the United States during previous conferences as a demonstration of 'solidarity,' said the



# United in M

Photographer: Chris Oldham





NBPA's US leader, Marcus Jones.

Moss Side, with its large Caribbean, Asian and Somali communities and problems with gang violence, was thought the ideal district for the Manchester walk.

At the conference, a video address from Prime Minister Tony Blair was followed by a declaration from Michael Todd, one of the welcoming speakers, that the police needed to be more representative of communities.

"It is not just to meet Government targets," he told delegates. "We need to be more representative because it's the right thing to do and an operational imperative."

If the issue was to be tackled properly, changes to current legislation might have to be considered, he suggested.

Keith Jarrett, UK President of the NBPA, said that holding the conference in Manchester had given the world "a chance to see

the progress we are making in campaigning for fair treatment and representation not only for black and Asian officers, but also for black and Asian communities."

He said: "Officers from all over the world came together to compare experiences, give mutual support and continue to work towards professional police forces that are committed to creating just and equitable societies."



Conference opener: Marcus Jones, President of the NBPA in the United States

# Manchester



Keith Jarrett, President of the NBPA in the UK



Tarique Ghaffur, an assistant commissioner in the Metropolitan Police, is a former inspector in GMP at Longsight.



# Making an entrance

The Public Order Training Unit at Claytonbrook has taken delivery of a new EUE rig – for effective unarmed entry.

The eight-ton structure of wood and steel girders cost £30,000 and is being used in the training of officers to make rapid entries into buildings.



Up 26 places in less than a year...

# Top Ten ranking for GMP website

An update on developments, both recent and forthcoming, by Web Manager MARK COOKSON



**THE GMP website, now in its 10th year, has developed into a two-way communication tool that allows the public to contact the police via the internet. The site, initially redeveloped ahead of the Commonwealth Games in 2002, has changed dramatically over the past 12 months.**

We have incorporated changes in current legislation for accessibility (including the Disability Discrimination Act), a redesign that reflects the Force's corporate branding and the introduction of a number of features and services to make information more accessible.

In March last year, GMP changed its hosting company. This allowed us make changes to the site and now all changes are carried out by GMP staff direct from desktops via a bespoke

Content Management System that allows the site to be updated within minutes.

*Recent developments include:*

**Accessibility** - making the site viewable on various platforms and browsers.

**Readspeaker** - enabling the user to have the site read aloud. Auto Translations are also used to translate the site into other languages.

All GMP sites are accredited with a double A rating which demonstrates adherence to a level of web development standards. The ratings range from single A to triple A.

Web accessibility is achieved using a product called **SiteMorse** which ranks all UK police forces.

*The ranking has seen our website move up from No 33 in November last year to 9th in January and a current position of 7th.*

**Redesign** - the look and feel has changed to include a newsy front, which raises the prominence of the news, appeals and missing persons.

There is also the facility to output information into news and feeds, which means this allows you to identify the content you like and have it delivered directly to your computer while connected to the internet.

RSS-aware software on your computer can check your designated feeds for changes



and alert you that a site you are interested in has been updated.

**Viewable via mobile\handheld devices** - the public now has access to the website on portable devices such as a Blackberry and Smart phones.

**E-mail a friend facility** - enables pages to be sent to other people, further increasing the visibility of the Force via the web.

**New divisional sites** have been developed to provide local news and information, which includes a web-based mapping system, and **Neighbourhood Policing Teams** now have their own pages.

+++++  
We are working on a number of projects. To name just a few:

**Media Console** - the Media Centre would provide an area where designated individuals from the media could log into the site for latest news stories, further information on existing news items, appeals or missing persons, download photos, media clips and associated documentation used in trials,

directions to media briefings.

**Major Incident Communications Facility** - due to the numbers of significant counter-terrorist operations and the potential for GMP to deal with July 7-type incidents, there is an immediate requirement for staff to change easily the look and feel of the GMP website and activate mechanisms that will allow us to publish and receive information.

**Live Web Statistics** - provide real time web statistics, e.g. number of users currently on the site.

**Subscriptions** - will allow users to set their own preferences on information they want to receive or how the site is viewed.

**INTERNET ADVISORY BOARD**

Developments to GMP's website are being shaped by officers and staff from across the Force.

An Internet Advisory Board has been established to ensure the site, which attracts up to 90,000 visits each month, remains at the forefront of internet design and functionality.

It means decisions about the internet are made not just by the Corporate Communications Branch, but by all those sections that have a stake in improving the way GMP engages with the public.

*\* Any member of the Force can submit a suggestion for improving the website, while units, branches or divisions that would like to be represented on the Advisory Board should contact Mark Cookson by e-mail or on extension 61166.*

THE THIN GREEN LINE

As you may have seen in August's Brief, I am looking for people who are interested in environmental issues to become Environmental Champions and to help me 'spread the green word' throughout GMP. If you are interested in helping, then please drop me an email and I will be in touch.

**JANET ACKARY,**  
Environmental Manager

## FOCUS ON GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE AUTHORITY

# Balancing the budget

**THE role of Greater Manchester Police Authority may seem remote from the work of officers on the beat.**

**But the reality is that much of what it does can directly affect them and their police staff colleagues.**

POLICE pay and pensions is one area in which the Police Authority has a say – and not just for the Command Team.

Derek Osbaldestin, who chairs the Authority, is on the National Police Negotiating Board, which meets with the Police Federation and staff unions to negotiate pay. And the Authority provides the budget from which pensions are paid.

In fact, the Authority holds the budget from which everything gets paid, though for practical purposes much of the spending is devolved to the Chief Constable.

Obtaining that budget is one of the principal jobs of the Authority.

It usually begins around November when the Home Office announces the grant it will make to each force.

That's based on a complex formula designed to ensure fairness across the country.

But it's never enough to cover all of GMP's budget requirement, and the difference has to be met locally by a levy on ratepayers called a precept.

The amount required from the 10 local authorities in Greater Manchester in this financial year is just under £86 million. Obtaining that money each year involves close consultation with the councils through their representative body, the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities.

Clearly, councils are under pressure to keep any annual increase in the precept charge as low as possible in order to keep down council tax bills. They're



Animal welfare is the speciality of Police Authority member Councillor Stephanie Poole, pictured at the GMP Mounted Unit at Hough End with PC Keith Eddisbury. Photo: Bill Morris

also faced with many other competing demands like housing, education and social services. On top of that, there's something called 'capping' which sets an upper limit on any increase in the precept that GMPA can levy, usually to a ceiling of five per cent.

Once agreement on the precept is reached, usually by mid-February, then the difficult task of balancing the budget begins.

It's like balancing the family budget but on a grander scale. You know what your income is going to be and you have a wish list of things you'd like to do. But in the end you usually have to make tough choices, which is what the Chief Constable faces almost every year.



**THE Authority's fingerprints can be found all over GMP.**

**Joint initiatives currently under way range from equipping the Force with a world-class call-handling system to stamping out the nuisance of illegal**

**off-road motorcycling by co-ordinating a campaign that aims to get the law changed.**

**A good example of Force and Authority working together to improve conditions for all employees is the £78 million Private Finance Initiative now nearing completion.**

**This will see 16 new stations built to provide modern and efficient working conditions. In simple terms, the Force determined where those stations should be and how they should be equipped and the Authority – which, by the way, owns all the GMP property – found the money.**



*WHEREVER you go in the Force area, you'll find members and officers of the Authority going about their work.*

*The 19 members include 10 elected members who are councillors, one from each of the 10 local authorities.*

*The Police Authority doesn't select them, but it does nominate*

*the political party from which they must come in order to ensure a political balance that reflects the balance across Greater Manchester.*

*Three Justice of the Peace members are selected by the Police Authority, and the remaining six members are 'Independents' – people who usually have a strong track record in public service and who go through a rigorous selection process before taking up their two-year appointments.*

*Later this year, advertising will start for independent members and the existing ones will have to go through it all again.*



MEMBERS sit on a range of committees as well as attending the six-weekly meetings of the full Authority. Some are lead members on particular issues, such as race and diversity and capital works.

There's even a lead member for animal welfare who takes a keen interest in the Force dogs and horses.

There are several areas where

the Authority has a statutory responsibility that is distinct from the Force.

These include considering appeals against the outcome of disciplinary hearings and organising sittings of Police Appeal Tribunals.

More recently, the Authority has been tasked with raising awareness of a person's rights under Stop and Account, and it has set up Independent Advisory Groups to provide guidance on critical policing issues affecting minority, ethnic and LGBT communities.



*From its headquarters in Swinton, the Police Authority works hard to ensure that the Force is adequately resourced and equipped to perform its task.*

*At the same time, it is rigorous in its monitoring of performance and its scrutiny of key functions and processes.*

*The underpinning aim of all that it does is to ensure an effective and efficient police service for the 2.5 million people of Greater Manchester.*

## WHY CASUALTY BUREAU NEEDS MORE VOLUNTEERS

By Smyth Harper

POLICE officers and staff are being urged to sign up as volunteers for GMP's Casualty Bureau.

The bureau operates when there is a local, regional, national or international emergency where people living in North West England could be concerned about family or friends.

It is a vital part of the response to an emergency, but cannot operate without the help of GMP officers and staff.

The Force runs the bureau on behalf of forces in the North West and has been operational for several incidents, including the cockle picking tragedy in Morecambe Bay in September 2004, the Asian tsunami of December 2004 and the 7/7 attacks in London.

GMP recently appointed PC Helen Palfrey as Casualty Bureau co-ordinator.

Helen has been in the Force for 18 years and for seven of those she was in the Mounted Unit before being forced to step down due to injury. Over the past three years, she has been involved in a variety of projects with Specialist Operations Branch and is able to bring a wealth of experience to the role.

### DEMANDING

"Working on Casualty Bureau is demanding, but one that people find incredibly satisfying," she said

"It's a way of helping the Force and providing assistance to people who really need it in a sympathetic and professional way.

"All kinds of people have volunteered, including officers, groundskeepers and cleaners. You get fully trained and are told exactly what to expect."

One of those who has volunteered is ACC Stephen

Thomas's secretary Alwyn Davidson, who believes it is a great way to give something back to the Force.

"It can be very upsetting, but at the same time incredibly satisfying to know that you've helped," she said.

"When you see a major disaster on the news you often think 'what can I do?' Our Casualty Bureau is a direct way for us to help out people who are in awful circumstances.

"Although it can be quite distressing, we are really well looked after. Our welfare is very important to the supervisors running it."

### OPERATION

Last month, the system was tested under Operation Sycamore, with a scenario in which two planes were assumed to have crashed over Manchester city centre.

"Obviously, that's something we hope would never happen, but it's important to prepare for the eventuality," said Ch Insp Chris Hill (Operational Communications Branch).

"We need to ensure regularly that the system has no deficiencies so that when there is a real incident, people will be able to get the assistance they need."

Volunteers are put into a pool of names which is drawn on when the bureau needs to open.

Though staffed by volunteers, if they are called in on a rest day they are compensated at the relevant overtime rate.

Volunteers are called up only if they are not required operationally during the emergency.

\* Call handlers and data inputters are both required for Casualty Bureau. For more information, contact PC Helen Palfrey on extension 60634 or by email. Applications can be made through the vacancies section of the Force Intranet.

## GMP CHILDCARE SCHEME

### Tax-free assistance with childcare costs

**Are you paying for registered childcare? Do you want to save between £76-£99 per month in tax and National Insurance Contributions?**

Over 500 members of staff are now taking advantage of the new **GMP Childcare Scheme** which allows staff to authorise GMP to pay the first £55 per week of their childcare costs **direct** from their pay, **before** tax and NICs are deducted.

Every parent working for GMP and paying for registered

childcare can join the scheme, which means if both parents work for the Force, then they won't have to pay any tax or NICs on the first £110 per week of childcare.

**Full details are available from Amanda Venables, Childcare Coordinator on 0161 856 1151**

## New code improves support for victims

NEW rules requiring police officers to inform crime victims regularly about the progress of investigations and criminal proceedings were published in a Code of Practice for Victims of Crime this year.

By Insp John Gill, Victims & Witnesses, Criminal Justice Division

**W**e don't know how many potential witnesses and victims fail to come forward to the police when a crime occurs.

But we do know that many have had or have heard of bad experiences with the criminal justice system and have been put off getting involved.

Witness and victim-related issues are the main causes of cases falling by the wayside.

This is why it is important to get the service delivery right for all victims and witnesses, that they receive accurate and up-to-date information and we establish at an early stage what support they may require.

There is nothing more frustrating than not being informed of what is happening in your case or not knowing who to talk to about your

concerns.

It is no wonder, therefore, that people who have had such an experience are less inclined to become involved again.

An additional benefit of keeping people informed is that it reduces incoming calls and enquiries about ongoing investigations. It is vital that anybody dealing with victims or witnesses understands their responsibilities.

The principle is simple. When investigating a crime, we must ensure the victim is kept informed of progress and the crime record is updated to show how we have complied with the code.

Once a case has entered the court system, the Witness Care Unit will generally take on the role of keeping the victim updated.

The code is available under

the S Dept section of the Force Intranet and our policy is published in Chief Constable's Order 2006/28.

If you are unclear about the role of the Witness Care Unit, then ask them. Contact details for all units are in CC order 2006/03, appendix D.

Victims can opt out of the requirement for updates.

The victim contract levels (below) have been developed to avoid trying to explain every possible scenario to victims, but to allow them to make a decision on information they may require and save us contacting them needlessly.

An e-learning pack is being launched and all operational staff will be expected to complete it.

Changes to incorporate the code are also being made to the burglary/robbery packs.

Level	Update level heading	Minumum Updates	Recommended victim category
A	Full	1. Initial assessment and letter/leaflet. 2. Monthly progress. 3. Arrest/report 4. Bail/custody and changes in status & conditions 5. Disposal, eg. charge, caution, summons.	Vulnerable and intimidated victims
B	Standard	1. Initial assessment and letter/leaflet. 2. Monthly progress. 3. Arrest/summons/report 4. Disposal, eg. charge, caution, summons.	Non vulnerable / intimidated personal victim.
C	Basic	1. Initial assessment and letter/leaflet. 2. Disposal, eg. charge, caution.	Companies or persons reporting crime primarily primarily as a duty, requirement or obligation.
D	None	1. Initial assessment and letter/leaflet.	Persons who have declared no interest in further information or in supporting any subsequent proceedings.

## Problem solving awards

### How local runners-up got into national top 10

WITHIN GMP, they were runners-up in the team competition for this year's Problem Solving Award.

But when it came to competing against forces throughout the country, the crime-cutting Safer Trafford Partnership surged ahead and won fourth place.

The 14-strong partnership that did better nationally than locally is a combination of police officers and Trafford Council staff based at Stretford Police Station.

At GMP's Problem Solving Award day in March, Salford won the prize for an alcohol misuse enforcement campaign, while Trafford and Rochdale were runners-up.

Salford was then put forward as GMP nominee for the Home Office's annual Tilley Awards for

police problem solving.

Trafford also put themselves forward, as they were entitled to do under the rules, and were shortlisted with nine other entrants, which did not include Salford.

### WINNERS

On September 9 at Birmingham NEC, the winners, who have already been notified, will be announced – first Lancashire, second Avon and Somerset and third Camberwell Green in South London, with Trafford in fourth position.

Safer Trafford Partnership got into the top 10 for delivering what was described as a 'highly effective' response to problems of burglary and vehicle crime in Trafford Park, one of Europe's

largest commercial and industrial areas.

After less than three years, there was a 37 per cent fall in commercial burglary, a 50 per cent fall in vehicle crime, a 22 per cent fall in criminal damage and a 10 per cent fall in violent crime – all well above target figures.

The initiative was run by project manager Keith Thomas (GMP), projects and finance procurement manager Mark Aspin (Trafford Council), Paul Hart, strategic crime pattern analyst, and area patrol officers PC Nigel Brown and PC Paul Berry.

The success opened the way to Operation Pride, a division-wide business security drive that now has more than 400 members.

## Fingerprints, DNA.....

# EVERY CONTACT LEAVES A TRACE

The management of forensic evidence has been reviewed on Wigan Division over recent months and five key elements have been identified. One is initial scene preservation. More than 100 operational officers have been undergoing a particular experience in this vital category.



More than 100 Wigan officers underwent forensic evidence awareness training.



Head of Scientific Services Dr Peter Hall, pictured with Ch Insp Jo Rogerson, looked in on the training at Hindley Police Station.

WHILE two officers checked the scene of a burglary, it was the officers themselves who came under close observation.

Every move they made was recorded on closed-circuit TV before they were given a detailed breakdown of their performance.

The scene, in fact, was inside Hindley Police Station, where the setting of a reported burglary had been created, complete with furniture and a range of forensic clues.

A burglar had entered through the kitchen window, gone into the sitting room and left through a back door into a yard. And the

question facing the officers was what crucial evidence he had left behind.

As part of a wide review by Wigan Division of how forensic evidence is handled, more than 100 frontline officers, including PCSOs, went into the 'house' in pairs for forensic awareness training, with a crime scene investigator acting as the victim.

### PRESERVING EVIDENCE

Ch Insp Jo Rogerson, who initiated the project, said:

"Officers were taken through a practical scenario of a reported

burglary in which opportunities for the recovery and preservation of potential forensic evidence were explored.

"They were encouraged to identify potential sources of forensic evidence and asked to provide preservation advice to the victim while awaiting the arrival of a CSI."

Officers on the course were given feedback by CSI staff and Local Development Officer PC Jacqueline Greene, who helped to develop the project with Volume Crime Scene Supervisor Lisa Wild and HR Manager Beverley Atkinson.

Ch Insp Rogerson said: "The

response from staff undertaking the training was very positive. It is also bringing benefits, including increased liaison between CSIs and patrol officers.

"In time, it is anticipated that the number of forensic recoveries will increase due to officers' heightened awareness."

### SPECIAL BAGS

Officers who had the training have been given specially-designed bags with 'Every contact leaves a trace' printed on the front.

"The intention is that officers can carry appropriate forensic

packaging, burglary packs and leaflets offering forensic advice to ensure a professional response and quality service to victims of crime," Ch Insp Rogerson said.

VCSS Lisa Wild said: "CSI staff found the project useful in forging closer working relationships with operational staff.

"Officers appear more willing to seek advice from a CSI now they have an identified point of contact within the team'.

\* It is planned to open the 'scene house' again next month when it is expected all remaining Wigan frontline officers, including special constables, will attend.

## The team making hit records

**T**HEY are called the Converter Team because they are dedicated to making the most of forensic hits such as DNA and fingerprints by turning them into sanction detections.

"The team has dramatically turned performance around and is likely to become a beacon for GMP," Det Ch Insp Russ Jackson, head of Wigan Crime Operations, said.

A sanction detection is achieved where an offender is charged or summonsed, receives a reprimand, final warning, caution or penalty notice or has an offence taken into consideration.

In its first two months, said DCI Jackson, the team achieved 134 sanction detections.

"There are several measures that can be used to assess forensic conversions, but under the most favourable, we can say that within the first few months, we have witnessed conversions increasing by well over 100 per cent," he said.

He said the formation of the

team followed a comprehensive review of Wigan's forensic detection strategy.

"The team has the single aim of achieving the maximum number of detections from every forensic opportunity," he said.

"There is a real culture that every forensic hit can be converted, even those which previously would have been thought of as only of use as intelligence."

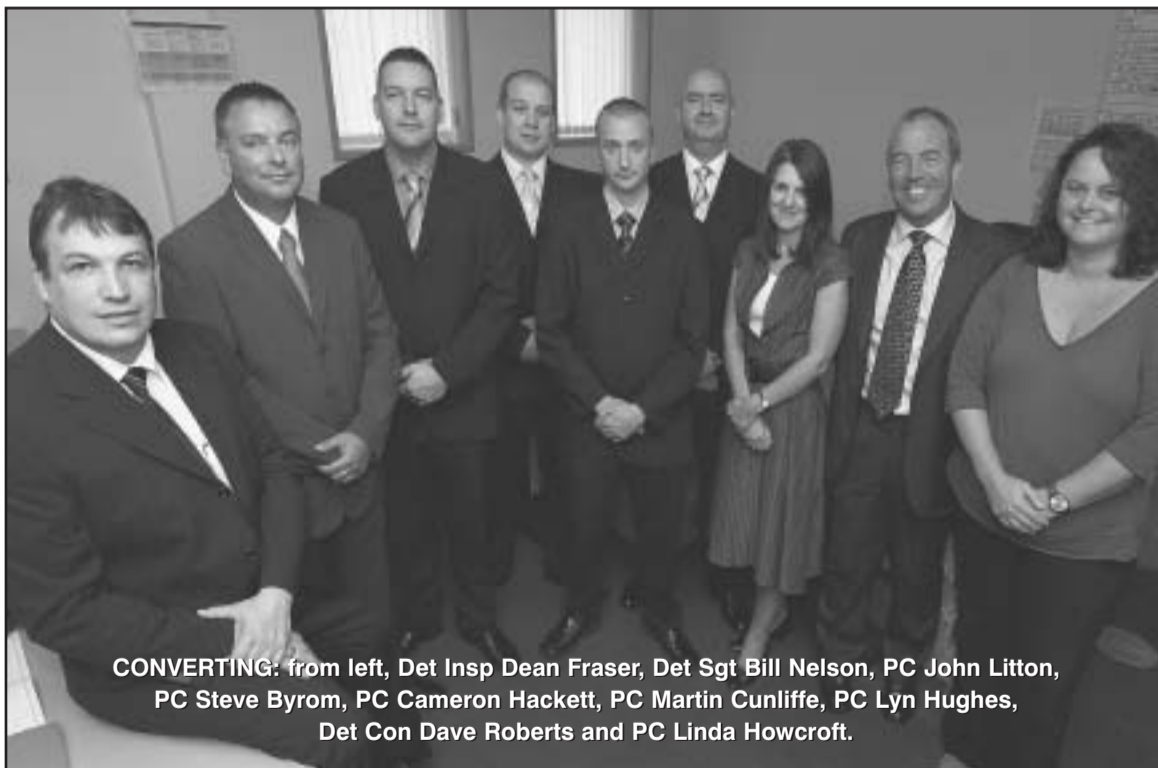
### SINGLE CPS CONTACT

The Wigan team now has a single point of contact with the CPS, which has ironed out problems that investigators sometimes find frustrating.

One example is where suspects have claimed 'legitimate presence' for their DNA or prints.

"There was previously often a difference between the view the CPS would take and ourselves on the strength of the evidence," said DCI Jackson.

"Now there is a much more consistent view being taken and we regularly take advantage of bad character evidence in



CONVERTING: from left, Det Insp Dean Fraser, Det Sgt Bill Nelson, PC John Litton, PC Steve Byrom, PC Cameron Hackett, PC Martin Cunliffe, PC Lyn Hughes, Det Con Dave Roberts and PC Linda Howcroft.

circumstances such as this."

Det Insp Dean Fraser, whose remit in Wigan Crime Operations includes the Converter Team of eight officers, said it was established after visits to the Lancashire and Northumbria forces.

"The most significant lesson learnt was the need for a single unit to deal with the entire process," he said.

"This starts with notification of the hit, through to researching that crime, obtaining the most thorough evidence available,

researching the suspect and other offences, then arrest, interview about that matter and other offences and charge/TIC and file preparation.

"Dealing with the hits in a piecemeal way dilutes the results."



# MUM AND DAUGHTER ON THE RUN

PC Jenny Lowe, based at Ashton-under-Lyne, and her daughter, Michaela Jones, a clerk in the Operational Policing Unit at Longsight, ran together in the 3k Race for Life at Heaton Park in the summer and raised £400 for Christie Hospital. They finished the run in 35 minutes.

"We hope to achieve an even better time next year," said Jenny, a regular fundraiser for Christie's.



## CHRISTMAS AT HOUGH END



**CHRISTMAS CABARET NIGHTS**  
**SPY CANDY** - Friday December 15.  
 £22.50 with Buffet Extravaganza, disco & 1am bar.

**THE SOUL BROTHERS** (formerly known as Stax of Soul)- Thursday December 21.  
 £29.95 with traditional Christmas dinner & all the trimmings, disco and 1am bar.  
 Includes all the usual party stuff you need for Christmas.  
 Plus - FREE BOTTLE OF WINE  
 Up to 4 people booked = 1 free bottle, up to 8 people booked = 2 free bottles etc.

**BIG DEAL** - Friday December 21.  
 £22.50 with Buffet Extravaganza, disco &

1am bar. Contact Jacqui on 0161 856 1796 or email [business@gmpsportsclub.com](mailto:business@gmpsportsclub.com) to book your RESERVED table.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE** - £15 with disco & 2am bar. Tickets on sale from October.

**STAYIN' ALIVE** - A tribute to The Bee Gees.

**GARY SKYNER** - The Unknown Famous Comic. Bar snacks available at a small extra charge until 10pm. Doors open 8pm. Tables can be booked in the restaurant to start your night off with a candlelit 3-course dinner followed by reserved seating on the balcony for the rest of the evening's entertainment.

Reserved seating is available only to restaurant diners.

## DYSLEXIA SUPPORT

Incl ADD, ADHD and Dyspraxia

**Thurs, October 5**  
**9.30am - 12.20pm**  
**Sir David Wilmot Suite,**  
**Sedgley Park**

Do any of the following sound familiar to you?

- Difficulty with reading
- Problems with spelling
- Poor handwriting, concentration, maths skills
- Poor memory
- Fear and anxiety of learning
- Low self esteem

If you are experiencing difficulties of this nature, or as a manager you know someone on your staff who is, why not do something about it?

This event is to inform staff about:

- The support available to GMP staff and managers who have, suspect they have or manage staff who have any of these conditions
- The role of the Disability Employment Adviser
- The role of the Work Psychologist
- What a functional assessment is
- Dyslexia and related conditions
- GMP and Jobcentre Plus funding

There will also be an opportunity to take an initial basic screening assessment that is confidential, free and could be the first step in obtaining professional help to overcome difficulties.

The event is open to everyone. Just phone the Equal Opportunities Unit on 62345 or 60121 to book a place or for more information.

## Carers

WITH three million working carers in the UK, GMP's Childcare Co-ordinator, Amanda Venables, began work to ascertain the impact that caring responsibilities were having on officers and staff.

Focus groups earlier this year led to a survey which brought 355 responses.

That made it apparent, says Amanda, that there was a need within the Force for information about support for carers.

To that end, GMP is holding a carers' event in November, which will provide information about support available within

the Force.

GMP has invited a number of charities, carers' organisations, Government bodies and local councils to attend with information, advice and guidance.

The event takes place on November 16 at New Century House, CIS, Manchester.

More information and booking arrangements will be available very soon, but in the meantime, contact Amanda Venables on extension 61151 or Ruth Hannan on 61123.

**THANKS:** Det Con Andy O'Donnell, of the Source Handling Unit at Middleton, hands a cheque for £2,007.24 to Ruth Fazakerley, of Cancer Research UK, as a result of a golf day he organised in June and a charity party at his home for non-golfers.

Andy said he organised the day with help from his wife, friends and colleagues so that he could acknowledge the excellent treatment and care he received after he was

diagnosed with testicular cancer.

Seventy-eight golfers took part in the T Off Trophy event at Crompton and Royton Golf Club in June.

"I'd like to thank all the golfers who took part in the event, as well as those who made donations through sponsorship of the event, holes and prizes," Andy said.

\* Anyone interested in fundraising for Cancer Research UK can contact the Manchester office on 0161 772 5555.

## Age discrimination

**NEW rules tackling age discrimination in the workplace come into force from the beginning of October.**

The Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006 will have a wide-ranging impact on how younger and older staff are treated both by colleagues and in terms of employment policies and procedures.

In GMP, the Human Resources Branch has been reviewing such policies in recent months to remove any potential age bias and to try to ensure that GMP not only fully complies with the regulations, but also adopts best practice in advance of the legal deadline.

The regulations apply to all areas of employment, including recruitment, promotion and retirement.

Further information and a series of frequently asked questions are available on the HR branch Intranet site, or by contacting Helen Roberts (extension 62355), Sandra Firth (62396) or Laura Keddie (62309).

The information is particularly relevant to staff involved in recruitment and retirement issues.

HR Branch says that as with all other forms of discrimination, any instances of harassment on the grounds of age will be dealt with as potentially disciplinary issues.

Every member of staff should ensure their comments or behaviour doesn't cause offence and that they challenge others who engage in potentially discriminatory behaviour.

## WINNERS

**No 1 CopperPot Lottery**  
**August draw**

- £2,000** - John Murray (retd).  
**£1,000** - Sarah Houghton (Thames Valley).  
**£500** - Richard Jackaman (BTP).  
**£250** - Rosalind Crewdson (GMP)  
 Andrea Wild (GMP)  
**£100** - Kathryn Cornwell (GMP)  
 David Young (GMP)  
 Anne-Louise Ratcliffe (GMP)  
 Elizabeth Brundrett (resigned)  
 David Picker (Lincolnshire)

- £50** - Fred Berry (retd)  
 Christopher Brickley (GMP)  
 Alan Sheppard (GMP)  
 Andrew Wood (GMP)  
 Peter Sloan (retd)  
 Mark Cockerham (Cambs)  
 Alan Corfield (retd)  
 Mark O'Donoghue (Surrey)  
 Robert Blair (retd)  
 William James (retd)  
 Neil Crace (retd)  
 Paul Blake (GMP)  
 Ellen Lacey (BTP)  
 John Gillbanks (retd)  
 Eric Bradley (GMP).

**POLICE RUGBY LEAGUE**  
**GMP/LANCS 22pts**  
**CHESHIRE 24pts**

**C**UP holders GMP/Lancs were outgunned by a determined Cheshire side in the final moments following some dubious refereeing decisions.

Without the injured free-scoring wingman Swift (Lancs) and GMP's influential goal-kicking stalwart Atherton, GMP/Lancs were up against a well-organised Cheshire pack.

GMP/Lancs conceded a try and goal as early as the 5th minute to trail 6-0, but hit back with tries from Clark, Edmundson and McAndrew, Whitehouse adding a goal to give them a 14-6 lead after 20 minutes.

Cheshire responded well with three tries and three goals to leave GMP/Lancs trailing 24-14.

With some good defence from both sides and with time running out and points needed on the board, GMP/Lancs had to pull something out of the bag to get back into the game.

An excellent combination from Fogarty and Clark sent Ashcroft in at the corner to set the score at 24-18, Whitehouse failing to add the extras.

This wound up a tense last five minutes where everything was thrown at the Cheshire defence.

With pacy centre Clark having the measure of his opposite number, he again cantered in at the corner post to leave stand-in goal kicker Whitehouse needing to add the extras to level the score, but unfortunately he was just wide of the posts, leaving the score 24-22.

The game left GMP/Lancs in third place in the league.

On September 27, they are away to the Metropolitan Police in a semi-final play-off. In last year's cup final, GMP/Lancs defeated the Met 58-8.

**ON a hot and humid day, a team of officers from Uppermill Police Station raised almost £1,000 by taking part in the annual Manchester to Blackpool charity bike ride.**

The weather was such that water stops were made every 13 miles or so on the 60-mile route.

Pictured before setting off are (from the left) PCSO James Ackland, PCSO Monica Seville, PCSO Wayne Turley, PCSO Rachel Stead, PCSO Michael Lowther, PC Peter Nuttall, PCSO Mark Detheridge, PC David Pickles, Sgt Craig Johnson and PCSO Steven Kenney.

Sgt Annette Nodwell and PC Kevin Gamwell were in a support van with refreshments, and Insp Peter England drove the team's mini bus into Manchester and on the return journey from Blackpool.

Most of the sponsorship came from families and friends, boosted by donations from shops and businesses around Uppermill.

Starting out at 9am, the last riders crossed the finishing line at 5.15pm.

The proceeds have been divided between Christie cancer research and Saddleworth area youth clubs.



**TOP SCORE**

Nearly 250 pupils from 24 primary schools competed in the annual football tournament that is organised by PC Barry White and his colleagues at Pemberton Community Beat Office and played at Wigan's JJB Soccerdome.

Pictured with the winning team and their teacher from St Wilfred's are Insp Bob Pell and, on the right, retired community police officer John Heaton, who the tournament is named after.

The Heinz connection? The company is the joint main sponsor of the event, together with Wigan Council's Community Safety Group. Asda provided the refreshments.

**SQUASH TEAM WINS PROMOTION**

**The GMP 1st team has won promotion to the Third Division of the North West Counties Squash League, while the 2nd team finished mid-table at seventh.**

Promotion was secured with a keenly-fought last match win over nearest rivals Grove Park.

Team captain Gavin Connor said: "It was a great result and we are really looking forward to next season."

He said if there are any other squash players with experience of playing at this level who would like to join the teams, they can contact him on extension 68694 or mobile 07957-648808.

**T**HREE inflatable sports stadiums have been bought by Stockport Division's Youth Strategy Team, courtesy of funding from the Greater Manchester High Sheriff's Police Trust, for use by volunteer groups in the Stockport area.

One proved a big favourite at the Cherry Tree Fun Day at Romiley in the summer, where PC Paul Slamon, a member of the Youth Strategy Team, is pictured with Nick Haigh, of Woodley Churches Together, Alex Heritage (Stockport Sports Development) and some of the children who joined in the activities.

"The mobile stadiums are proving extremely popular," Paul said.

"They are used in tackling issues of anti-social behaviour by diverting young people in constructive ideas."

Earlier that week, Paul and colleague Dennis Bishop, Stockport Division's Community and Race



Relations Officer, were the guests of a youth forum at Cheadle Muslim Association's community centre and mosque to discuss policing issues.

Topics raised included hate crime, terrorism, youth provision and stop-and-search policies.

"We received positive feedback from the young people who were there," Paul said.

# A winning line-up at the World Cup

Continued from Page 20

Their mass arrests led to early mornings appearing on BBC, ITV and Sky explaining the German legal system and police preventative arrest powers.

Fortunately, I found our media colleagues had the same views as me that a handful of drunken individuals should not be allowed to ruin the reputation that English supporters were forging in Germany.

Stuttgart gave me my second overriding memory of the tournament – a young German girl on the shoulders of her father leaving the fan park there after Germany had won their game with a big beaming smile on her face, very soon to be involved in the middle of the disorder, with her smile turning to terror and tears.

Finally, **Gelsenkirchen** - 80,000 English football supporters and a carnival atmosphere off the field while on the field against Portugal another penalty shoot-out loss. My overall impression of the tournament was that it was a fantastic success for English football supporters, just like Euro 2004.

## DRUNKEN MINORITY

This is tinged with disappointment at the behaviour of a drunken minority.

Of course, the 3,800 people prevented from travelling by football banning orders and bail conditions contributed enormously to this success, a success built upon the hard work of many police officers across the

country for many years in achieving these banning orders and so preventing these hooligans from travelling.

As for watching football, I never saw England play, but I did manage to see Ghana against the Czech Republic, Australia against Croatia and Ghana against Brazil.

We lost our reputation as the hooligans of Europe and over the next two years we have to build on this. At the same time, we need to tackle the drunks that we so graphically saw performing in Stuttgart.

**These are the very individuals we see getting drunk in our town and city centres on Friday and Saturday nights. So why would they perform any differently in Germany?**

Press Officer Alex

Continued from Page 20

With the 'on the road' team organising regular briefings with ACC Stephen Thomas and photo opportunities with German and English bobbies in the venue cities, it was our job to field media enquiries and monitor output.

In the event of a major disturbance in a German city involving British fans, one of us would have been redeployed to manage the media interest.

Meanwhile, those back in the office would also have been assigned to rapid rebuttal, to correct any inaccurate reporting.

As it was, the only really quick responses that were needed were along the lines of 'Endschuldigung. Ice spreche Deutsche nicht. Sprechen sie Englisch, bitte?' to deal with the stray visa-related calls we kept getting from German speakers!

### Embassy facilities were excellent

The facilities at the embassy were excellent, and within a few hours of arriving on our first day,

we had desks, computers and Internet access.

Shift patterns and an on-call rota were quickly negotiated between us, taking into account varying kick-off times for the England games and the fact that we needed the odd day off.

As we didn't have access to our normal press office information logging systems, we utilised an online service that lets several people share and work on documents.

It worked well, but we were restricted to non-confidential information, as we weren't sure how secure it was.

The most common question I have been asked since I returned is: 'Did you go to any matches'? Sadly, not even an impressive-looking British Embassy pass was enough to swing me with a ticket for Brazil versus Croatia, played achingly close at the impressive Olympic Stadium.

Instead, we made do with a night of sambaing on the famous Berlin Fan Mile, with tens of thousands of enthusiastic Brazilians and Croatians.

Even with 500,000 heaving

bodies crammed in for Germany versus Poland, the atmosphere remained carnival-like and amazingly good-natured, although the odd ringing eardrum and shower of beer was always to be expected.

### There were only a few spoilers

Thankfully, this relaxed and happy situation was generally reflected in Frankfurt, Nuremberg, Koln, Stuttgart and Gelsenkirchen, where thousands of England supporters gathered, with just a few beer-fuelled idiots spoiling the big party.

With football banning orders proving a resounding success in keeping the real troublemakers out of Germany, maybe, just maybe, we have seen the back of the shocking and shameful violence we saw at the World Cup in 1998 and European Championships in 2000.

And if that means the odd quiet moment for police press officers at future tournaments, I don't think there will be too many complaints.



## But at least England has won one trophy

**F**OR the first time in seven years, England won the police golf team prize this year against Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Two of the six members of the team were GMP golfers – Mick Lay (left) and Craig Cuthbert, pictured with the shield.

They qualified for places in the international team because Craig was last year's Police Sport UK champion and Mick was runner-up.

In this summer's individual police championships, Craig,

current captain of the GMP Golf Society, finished in second place in the 72-hole competition at Fairhaven, near Lytham.

Craig was leading after the first two rounds. But despite scoring a dramatic eagle (three shots) at the final par-5 hole, he lost by just one shot to a Derbyshire player, who won the title with a 2ft putt.

His winning form continued elsewhere, however.

Representing the British Police against the Civil Service at Walton Heath, Surrey, he won both his matches.

## RECENT RETIREMENTS (to end of June)

**Deputy Chief Constable** Alan Green.

**Superintendent** William (Martin) Harding.

**Chief Inspectors** Martin Gaffney and Michael Silcock.

**Inspectors** Stephen Cocker, Alison Green and Michael McConnell.

**Sergeants** Fred Berry, Stephen Cragg, Kevin Dean, Clive Dickinson, Trevor Evans, Philip Higgin, Bruce Howard, Gerard Hurst, Marjorie Kenny, Eric Kenyon, Steven Mercer, Stephen Retford and Mark Wilkinson;

**Constables** Stuart Ashall, Thomas Aspey, Charles Bailey, Pauline Barlow, Keith Biddulph, Philip Brimelow, Raymond Coote, Philip Cope, Stuart

Donaldson, Dexter Elder, Stephen Flitcroft, Frances Griffith, Darren Hodgkinson, Gary Hughes, Michael Johnson, Judith Kellett, Nigel Lansdown, Paul Lawrance, Robert Littlewood, Sandra Markowski, David Nunwick, William Rayner, Thomas Reid, Gerald Rimmer, Iain Scott, Philip Thomas, Stephen Walker and Gabrielle West.

### Police staff (includes early retirements)

Joan Bennett, John Brown, Sandra Brown, Jonathan Cliff, Roger Dunkerley, Barbara Hallsworth, Kenneth Hardy, David Horgan, George Moyes, Pauline Pickup, Harry Lee, Austin Reed, Shaun Slater, Edna Thomas, Peter Thompson and Bessie Warburton.

Stage Squad Presents

# DIVA

Every diva has a story...  
Every story has a beginning.

Friday 29th & Saturday 30th September

Hough End Centre  
Mauldeth Road West, Chorlton

Doors Open 7.30pm, Curtains up at 8  
Bar and disco till late

Please Contact Anna on 0161 718 5901  
or email stagesquad@btinternet.co.uk

# Winning line-up

**ACC Specialist Operations STEPHEN THOMAS led the UK policing contingent at the World Cup in Germany. He never got to see England play, but he did see England supporters lose their reputation as the hooligans of Europe.**

**A**S a football fan, the call I received in February was really too good to be true – the opportunity to follow England to the 2006 World Cup in Germany and all expenses paid.

Well, it was too good to be true if you actually wanted to see the England games.

As the ACPO Lead on Football Policy, I led a group of 83 police officers to Germany and eight surrounding countries. In addition, I had excellent support from officers working at home on the UK Ports operation and at the UK Football Policing Unit in London.

In Germany, our operation had two strands. First, our support to the Lander (regional) Police – 14 football spotters and four uniform officers working in the venue cities under the command of Ch Supt David Lewis (Merseyside), with three officers working with the Crown Prosecution Service and eight in various intelligence headquarters across Germany.

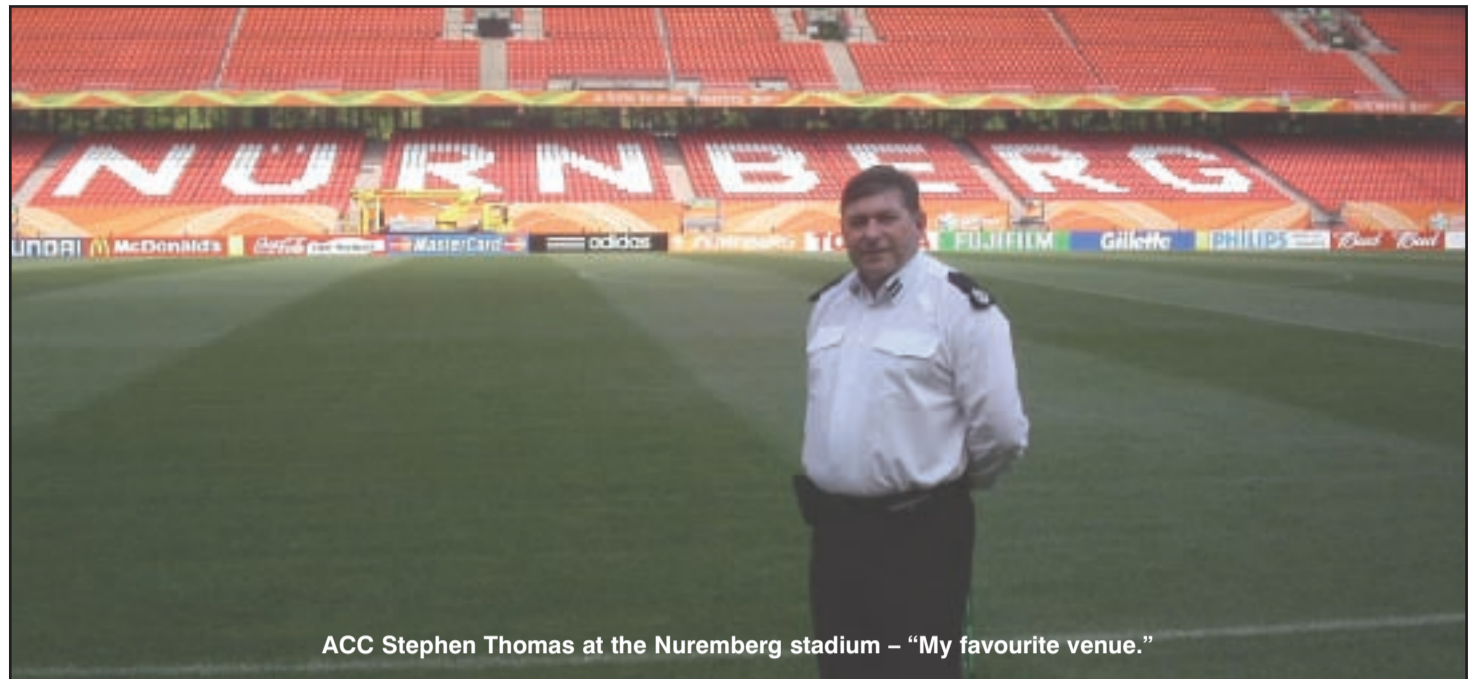
Secondly, our support to the German Federal Police – 29 British Transport Police officers working on the railway system, with 14 at airports, all under the command of Supt Roger Evans (Metropolitan Police Service). Plus, of course, our two press officers in Berlin and the two others on the road with me.

GMP was very ably represented by Adrian Ollerton (uniform patrol at airports), Peter Harrold (uniform patrol in the venue cities), Steve Chisnall and Cliff Lea (Football Spotters) and Kevin Fitzpatrick (Bronze Commander for the Spotting Operation).

## COACH TRIP

The adventure began at noon on June 5 when the GMP and Merseyside officers crammed into a minibus at Chester House and set off for London.

After an evening briefing, the next day saw a very early start on our coach trip to Germany and 12 hours later we arrived in Neuss at the German headquarters for the tournament. Another evening of briefings before, next day, we were off to **Frankfurt** for the first game. We arrived after two days on the road and I thought longingly about my last visit here and the 90-minute flight it had taken from Manchester.



ACC Stephen Thomas at the Nuremberg stadium – “My favourite venue.”

## ‘A fantastic success for England supporters’

Frankfurt saw an England victory over Paraguay, 70,000 English football supporters and a carnival atmosphere. Romer Square gave us our first sight of English football supporters enjoying themselves in the sunshine, plus the uniform patrols of Robbie the Bobby from Merseyside and Sgt Peter Harrold (North Manchester) entertaining the crowds with Merseyside football songs and posing for photos.

Here we had our first sight of the 500 to 1,000 individuals who can best be described as drunken yobs. Their behaviour in the early hours of the morning in Frankfurt and everywhere else we played at times made you ashamed to be English.

## TRUE SPIRIT

However, their antics could never diminish the true spirit and fantastic atmosphere generated by real English football supporters in Germany.

Frankfurt also gave me my first inkling that I didn’t need an alarm clock during the tournament. Long days finishing at around 2am combined with the 7.30am call from one of my press officers to announce that I

should get out of bed, grab some breakfast and get down to a square somewhere in Germany where in the next hour I was to appear live on BBC, ITV, or SKY, soon became the norm.

Next stop **Nuremberg**, my favourite venue and certainly worth a visit. A win over Trinidad and Tobago, 50,000 English supporters, a fantastic carnival atmosphere, and none of the feared celebration of its Nazi past by English supporters, although our travelling drunks did their best

Then **Koln** (Cologne), 60,000 English supporters and a draw with Sweden. It provided me with one of my overriding memories of the tournament - Robbie the Bobby and Peter Harrold patrolling outside Koln Cathedral.

I spent an hour there myself patrolling in uniform and mixing with English and other football supporters from all over the world. My attempts to give directions to our supporters, plus some German pensioners, left a lot to be desired, but my map and a basic grasp of German saw me through.

On to **Stuttgart** – a win against Ecuador, 65,000 English supporters and incidents on the steps where 600 English drunks were happy to spend three days performing for German supporters or anyone else who cared to stop and watch.

Turn to Page 19



EUROPEAN UNION: North Manchester’s Sgt Peter Harrold (second left) with UK and German colleagues outside Cologne Cathedral.

**GMP Press Officer ALEX WADDINGTON was a member of the police media team at the World Cup, based at the British Embassy in Berlin. And for once, he writes, there wasn’t a lot of bad news to be handled (except for England’s defeat, of course)**



IT was always going to be the case that, if I found myself a little underworked, things were going well. And if I found myself in the office at midnight, glued to rolling news, things were going horribly wrong.

As it was, there was such a glaring lack of organised British hooligan activity that the British media reverted from type and started reporting good news for a change.

‘Best in the world’ declared one tabloid headline, quoting German officials who praised the ‘superb’ British supporters.

As part of the Home Office/ACPO media team, I was selected to join with another police press officer and a Foreign Office press officer to provide back-up from the British Embassy in Berlin for the travelling media team.

Turn to Page 19