

SPECIAL

IMPACT



THE VOICE OF THE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY

AUTUMN EDITION | ISSUE 40



**SEE CENTRE PAGES
PROMOTING NEW EMPLOYER
SUPPORTED POLICING PARTNERS**

WELCOME

responsibility of all of us who lead Special Constabularies to look to the horizon, and strategically plan for the future of these hugely valuable teams that we have the privilege to lead.

I have recently taken up a new full-time role as the National Special Constabulary Sustainability and Uplift Coordinator, a role that is all about looking forward. I am joined by Shelle Nicholson in a support role, and together we have been funded for the next six months by Operation Uplift to work towards a sustainable future for the Special Constabulary.



The Special Constabulary has a long and proud history in visible front-line policing. We often look back in pride at the huge contribution our Specials have made and hear words like “We couldn’t have done it without you”, or “your teams make such a difference”. I am a proud member of my local Special Constabulary in Gwent as a Special Chief Inspector, a role that means I hear these kinds of comments all the time. I see first-hand the difference our Special Constables make in our communities, and I am hugely proud of every one of them in their roles as leaders in our communities, choosing to give their time as a gift. Their value and worth is immeasurable.

However, as important as it is to look back with pride, it is also vital to our future that we look forward with hope. It is the



We will be working with your Forces providing toolkits, workshops and events, and supporting the Special Constabulary Working Group to promote attraction and recruitment initiatives, as well as looking to improve our retention levels as a whole across the Special Constabulary.

We all have a role to play in

this work regardless of our rank or position. We need to get involved, be positive, bring our skills, plan strategically, and dream a little bigger if we want to see a sustainable future for our Specials. This responsibility and privilege sits on the shoulders of all of us.

Shelle and I are here to guide Forces through this process of positively and strategically looking to the future. I hope you will all join us in this work over the next 6 months as we seek to build a Special Constabulary that is built for growth and built to last.

Esther McLaughlin
National Special Constabulary Sustainability and Uplift Coordinator

ALL SPECIAL CONSTABLES: Feel free to ask your SC Supervision to contact your Regional Citizens in Policing Coordinator/ Representative to see the latest newsletter which provides an update from the Special Constabulary National Working Group meeting.

Special Impact is supported by Citizens in Policing Practitioner’s, Stakeholders and Volunteers. Thanks goes to Graham Holmes for supporting artwork and design. To submit an article or to give feedback please email: Tina.shelton@amp.police.uk

FRONT PAGE: MERSEYSIDE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY



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SPECIAL’S EXTRAORDINARY AWARD CEREMONY

During the period of Covid-19 Pandemic many of the Cumbria Constabulary Special Constables volunteered on a full time basis or in some cases volunteered substantially more hours than they usually would. Their contribution certainly did not go unnoticed and as such the Citizen in Policing Team felt it only right that this contribution was recognised.

All of the Special Constables that contributed over 150 hours have been awarded an “Extraordinary Award” from the Chief Constable.

Here are some of our Special Constables from Carlisle receiving their award from Chief Constable Michelle Skeer and Superintendent Matt Kennerley.



SC SOPHIE GARVEY



SC LUCY DAWSON



SC CHLOE CHAMBERS



SC WILL WILSON



SC JORGIA CARRUTHERS

Inspector Nick Oliver (North Area SPoC) said: “North Special Constabulary have provided 1000’s of hours in our efforts helping to police the

communities of Cumbria during this unprecedented time. During lockdown we have experienced an extraordinary level of serious crime including a number of high profile murder investigations. The Special Constabulary were available at a moment’s notice to bolster the ranks and provide a much needed presence to reassure the community. I would like to say a special thank you for all their efforts and hard work.”



DEVON & CORNWALL SPECIALS RECEIVE PSU TRAINING

Devon and Cornwall Special Constables have recently been carrying out training with our Public

Order Unit and now have over 60 officers who are trained in Level 3 PSU. This will help out the front line during this busy period and also enables Officers to keep themselves safe when they are dealing with large groups of people or disorder. Officers attended a classroom input followed by a practical session to learn the skills. The feedback from Officers has been extremely positive.

COVID-19 AWARDS

On the 10th September Devon and Cornwall Police ran the C19 Virtual Covid Awards. There were 5 categories for the awards those being: Community Creativity and Innovation, Departmental, Leadership and Team.

The Devon and Cornwall Specials featured very heavily in the nominations for all their hard work over COVID. Individual Specials and Specials Teams received over 21 nominations, with 6 of the nominees short listed. The Force is immensely proud of all the hard work and dedication they have shown, particularly over the last few months.

“EASILY THE BEST TRAINING WE HAVE HAD IN YEARS”

“WE WERE TREATED AS EQUALS TO THE REGULARS BY THE TRAINING TEAM”

“BRILLIANT HIGH VALUE TRAINING”

“THIS WAS VERY USEFUL – BRILLIANT TRAINING”

“BEST TRAINING COURSE I HAVE EVER BEEN ON”



NEW SPECIAL CONSTABLES MAKE THEIR FIRST ARRESTS

Two of the newest Uttlesford Special Constables Dale and Hible, made their first arrests whilst helping to keep more people safe and making a positive change to the community.

Special Constable (SC) Dale made his first arrest when an adult male was found to be breaching a harassment order. SC Dale said: “I’m sure I speak for many new Special Constables when I say that making that first arrest is both a relief and a significant milestone. We’ve done arrests many times over during our training, but despite the best efforts of the training college to create realistic scenarios, we know it is very unlikely that we are going to get hurt. In real life, you don’t know what to expect. You do have to rely on the presence and advice of the police officers when responding to incidents, and I am very grateful for all of the help and support they have given me.”

“The suspect was initially detained by the police officers after a search of the area and was agitated though held firm while I made the arrest. I subsequently checked him into custody, which was also a new experience. I went home that evening feeling a great sense of achievement.”



“My reason for becoming a Special Constable was to use my time to do something practical to help my community. I felt I’d done this by putting someone into custody who was a potential danger to a vulnerable person. As I’ve grown into the role, I’m thinking I should have done this years ago. But better late than never!”

SC Hible arrested a male and female for theft from a motor vehicle and fraud. SC Hible was called out with PC Braden to a damaged vehicle. When they spoke to the owner, they discovered his wallet had been stolen from his vehicle, along with some small change. He proceeded to check his online banking details and one of the stolen bank cards had been used. SC Hible said: “With the help of our fantastic PCSOs, we were able to locate which shop this had been used in, gather CCTV, receipts and a witness statement, before making the arrests.”

“It was a strange feeling knowing I was going somewhere specifically to make an arrest, but despite my initial nerves it all went well, and I had great support from PC Braden and Police Sergeant Ambrose. It’s a great feeling knowing you’ve made your first arrest and caught a criminal that could have proceeded to commit many more crimes.”

In one week alone, the Special Constables who support the Uttlesford area provided over 100 working hours to help the community and fight crime.

SPECIAL SERGEANT IS MAKING GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S ROADS SAFER



Special Sergeant Bob Brunson has been with the Gloucestershire Special Constabulary since 2012 and prior to joining, he served as a regular Police Constable for 30 years.

His role is leading the Special Constabulary Operation Indemnity Roads Policing Team and various campaigns throughout the year. Bob has completed 275 operational duty hours so far this year and provides a huge support for the Police and Crime Commissioner's Safe and Social Roads priority.

Bob was recently involved in the Summer Drink/ Drug Drive Campaign. He not only helped with organisation but was also involved in a number of the operations organised by his colleagues. On one occasion Special Constable (SC) Sonny Patel conducted a mini operation at Staverton in response to complaints of speeding through the village. This resulted in four negative breath tests and a number of warnings for speeding.

Bob also provides training for both Special Constables and regular officers. He recently trained a new student officer cohort on how to use a speed gun device and during 'Covid-19 provided training on the use of PPE. He also gets involved in training individuals on how to use Lion Intoxilyzers and Drug wipes.

Bob received the following feedback from one of the regular Sergeants regarding his training sessions "Just a thank you for the training you have delivered over 3 sessions - everyone commented on your enthusiasm Bob and thoroughness of the training. It's good that the team have some extra skills to use to assist in communities as speeding is always one which causes concern."

GOOD WORK REPORT: MISSING PERSON SEARCH



Special Constable Sam Poole volunteers in Stroud and has completed 508 operational hours of active operational duty hours this year. In June, Sam was involved in a missing person incident in his local area where an individual had run away from home saying he was going to kill himself. SC Poole, at the request of FCR, called the individual. The

control room had been cut off from the call and didn't have a staff member available to call him back.

Sam stayed on the phone to the individual for nearly 25 minutes persuading the male not to hang up and to remain on the line. Sam built up a rapport with the male and gained continuous accurate updates regarding his location which he then relayed to other officers. Whilst on the phone, he persuaded the male to return to meet with officers and the call was only ended when Sam was satisfied it had been established the man was safe.

A fellow experienced SC colleague commented on his dealing with the call "his professionalism, persuasion and information gathering in the situation was the work of a very competent officer." – Well done Sam!

SUCCESSFUL SUMMER DRINK/ DRUG DRIVE CAMPAIGN IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE



Across the county, Gloucestershire Special Constables were involved in this year's Summer Drink/ Drug Drive Campaign. This involved them attending and organising operations across the county as well as having an involvement with training student officers.

NEW SPECIAL CONSTABLES JOIN GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE

GMP has welcomed 48 new Special Constables to the Force, who will be giving up their own time to volunteer with the regular officers, to help keep local communities safe. We meet four of them below.

First up is **Special Constable Sarah Pounder**, who will be working with communities across the Tameside area.



Sarah is currently studying for a degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice, and has always wanted to work in policing. Two areas of particular interest from Sarah's course have been Policing and Offender Management, and Substance Misuse – both of which have further ignited her drive to pursue a career within GMP.

Her course has given a good insight into what is expected from GMP officers, and her existing knowledge has already helped with the training. Sarah feels she has many transferable skills from what she has learnt at University so far, and is looking forward to gaining the experience and knowledge from being part of the

practical side of things leading on from the classroom.

Next meet **Special Constable Michael Lewis**, a Psychologist by day, who specialises in Police Investigation work, as well as Police Mental Health and is part of the Police Suicide Committee.



Michael has previously volunteered as a Special Constable with British Transport Police, and has moved to GMP to help expand his experience operationally, and hopes, due to the wide area GMP covers, to gain a better understanding of how he can support officers in terms of the paid work he does. He is looking forward to the challenge, and the invaluable knowledge he will gain from volunteering on the Bury District.

Special Constable Jordan Ridsdale is a returning officer who will be re-joining the Rochdale team.



Jordan left GMP around 8 years ago due to other commitments, but he is glad to be back after feeling like there was unfinished business.

He was based across Rochdale the first time round, and is looking forward to going back to meet the changed team, and looking forward to enjoying the Neighbourhood Policing and volunteering with response too.

Jordan enjoyed the opportunity to make a difference volunteering as a Special gives, and is excited to be putting his uniform back on, and supporting his local communities.

Meet **Special Constable Olivia Jarvis**, who will be working across the Wigan district.



Olivia wanted to join as a Special to get a taste of what it is like being an officer, after always having an interest in the Police, and following the footsteps of her Auntie and Uncle who are officers within GMP. By day, Olivia is a Social Worker, and has a keen interest in working with young and vulnerable people in her new role, and is excited to use her transferable skills to support the local community.





making the change in 2015 to assisting the ever-expanding Police Cadet Programme. She spent every Wednesday evening supporting scores of young people to fulfil their potential through the scheme. While she will continue as a Volunteer Cadet Leader, she plans to retire from Special Constabulary service.

Marie was known for her enthusiastic attitude, was always keen to go to any jobs that came in and did full shifts for most weekends throughout her service.

PC Dave Ikin, who had the pleasure of working with Marie at Etal Lane Police Station, led the tributes to her. He said: "When most people were looking forward to a relaxing weekend after working full time, Marie would be getting ready to start a busy weekend shift.

"She was always keen to go to any jobs and would work full shifts supporting regular officers on patrol and during various operations. "Marie was always a great member of the team, she had such a positive can-do attitude and always made us laugh – not to mention her amazing baking skills. Her cakes always boosted the team's morale!"

Chief Constable Winton Keenen said: "I am always humbled by the dedication of our volunteers like Marie, and the passion they show for policing in our region and the communities they serve.

"Many of our volunteers already have busy lives, yet they make the choice to give their time to ultimately help keep others safe. I've no doubt whatsoever that Marie has had a significant impact on our local communities and on the many young people who knew her throughout their time in Cadets. I wish Marie and her family all the best for the future."



NORTHUMBRIA VOLUNTEER CELEBRATES 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

A Special Constable has hung up her hat for the last time after 30 years' service as a volunteer. Since joining the Force in 1990, Special Constable Marie Littlemore has selflessly given up her spare time and majority of her weekends to keep the people of Newcastle and Gateshead safe.

Marie supported various response teams before



WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE SPECIALS ATTESTATION

A socially distanced attestation on Sunday 16th August saw 12 proud Student Special Constables take the oath in front of Magistrate Philip Eaton and ACC Angela Williams.

The event was held without guests, however, this helped to ease some of the students' nerves when going up onto the stage to be presented with their warrant cards.

West Yorkshire Police Cohort 17 students embarked on their training in January and little did anyone know at that time what effect Covid-19 would have on everyday life.

Cohort lead Senior Section Officer Wayne Cowley was understandably proud to see the students attest after completing their training during the height of the worst pandemic in living memory.

West Yorkshire Police Lead for Citizens in Policing C/Insp Helen Brear said: "I am immensely proud of the officers who have worked hard and shown flexibility and resilience in successfully undertaking their 30 week training, under such challenging circumstances."



Mark Williams is a serving Special Constable in Thames Valley Police.

On 14 August Mark got home to find his 18 year old daughter had passed away suddenly at their home overnight whilst he had been on duty. A Just Giving Crowdfunding page has been set up to help towards the funeral Amy deserves. Excess funds will go to The Brain Tumour Charity.

If anyone feels they wish to donate to help Mark from the wider Special Constabulary / Blue Light Policing Family then the link can be found below.

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/amyrebekahwilliams

JustGiving

Nationwide have become partners on the Employer Supported Policing Scheme, giving their employees that are Special Constables and Police Support Volunteers additional 10 days paid leave to support their training each year.

We meet some of their staff who are Special Constables.



JEREMY HITCHCOCK IS A SPECIAL CONSTABLE WITH WILTSHIRE POLICE.

WHAT ROLE DO YOU UNDERTAKE WITH NATIONWIDE?

I currently work as a Method and Tools Architect within the resilience and agility community. I help to look after a tool called Apptio which helps the business analyse, monitor and then help to reduce IT spend as well as reporting a variety of measures in different areas such as cloud, IT support and IT service to name a very few.

WHY DID YOU JOIN THE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY?

I joined Northamptonshire Police in 2015 and then transferred to Wiltshire Police in 2017 when I was

offered a promotion within Nationwide which caused me to relocate.

I joined the Special Constabulary for two reasons; the first as a 'try before you buy' to see if I would want to pursue a career in the police and secondly was on the recommendation of a BTP officer after I intervened in a domestic violence incident at a train station. I managed to deescalate a volatile situation after an assault had taken place and kept the suspect busy until an officer arrived. This officer then came to take my statement a few days later and asked me if I'd heard of the Special Constabulary, which I hadn't, and he introduced me to the idea. As an interesting 'titbit' this officer then transferred to Northamptonshire Police before I joined and I ended up on the same team with him helping to tutor me, small world!

WHAT ARE THE BEST BITS ABOUT BEING A SPECIAL CONSTABLE?

I enjoy being a Special because it is a challenging role where you never know what the next job is and where no two days are the same. On a more subjective level I am part of a really good team where I'm treated no differently to anyone else.

HOW DO YOU BALANCE YOUR WORK/SOCIAL LIFE WITH YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES OF BEING A SPECIAL CONSTABLE?

Organisation is the key! I am very lucky that my Nationwide workday time doesn't change. This means I can plan my shifts far into the future. With my shifts then planned out I can organise to spend time with my partner, family and friends to make sure that I keep a healthy work/personal life balance

In addition, Nationwide have just become partners with Employer Supported Policing which will help me book onto police training courses for my own development.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU THINK THAT YOU BRING FROM THE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY INTO YOUR PAID WORK ROLE AND VICE VERSA?

The Special Constabulary has taught me a great deal of skills including risk management and mitigation, negotiation and conflict resolution skills and the importance of teamwork. In addition, it has taught me to not sweat the small stuff!

My roles at Nationwide have helped me bring a

Back in 2003 I was lucky enough to help pioneer the first Employer Supported Policing Programmes. That's part of the reason I am thrilled that Nationwide Building Society has now joined the Employer Supported Policing Partnership. As a Building Society, we believe in mutual respect. That is why we have agreed to support our colleagues with 10 days additional annual leave when they volunteer with any of the UK Emergency Services, including Special Constable and Police Support volunteers.

Joe Garner
Chief Executive Officer, Nationwide Building Society

fresh perspective into certain areas of policing. I am currently on a working group looking at the training delivered to new and existing officers and I'm drawing on my civilian experiences to help shape the new packages. In addition, I am also on part of the Special ICT user group looking into how technology is utilised by Special Constables. However as being somewhat technically savvy the majority of skills are used by my team asking me to try and fix their laptops when they stop working!

WHAT WAS THE REACTION OF YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHEN YOU DECIDED TO JOIN THE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY AND VOLUNTEER TO UNDERTAKE FRONT LINE POLICING?

My family were very supportive of me joining up, although they do worry about me doing the role however, they understand why I continue to do it. In terms of friends some were more supportive than

others and I have lost contact with some friends for no other reason than me being a Special Constable. This being said some of my closet friends are now Specials or regular officers that I've met and worked with over the years so it's all evened out in the long run.

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THIS VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY TO OTHERS?

This is a tough one, as I both would and wouldn't dependant on the person I was talking to, as not everyone is cut out to be a police officer. This role can be a fantastic opportunity to learn new skills, meet new people and support your local community however you also need to balance this with the physical, emotional and psychological trauma and stress the role brings. It takes a special type of person to be a police officer and deal with the situations they do as a paid role, it takes an even more unique person to be a Special Constable and do them all for free.



SPECIAL SUPERINTENDENT MATT KLEWZYK LINCOLNSHIRE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY



WHAT ARE THE BEST BITS ABOUT BEING A SPECIAL CONSTABLE?

I enjoy helping people I come into contact with, often in difficult circumstances, supporting them and making sure there is a fair outcome for the incidents I am involved in. As a Manager in my day job I am also a supervisor within the Special Constabulary. As a Special Superintendent I manage the Special Constabulary in a Force area working closely with my regular counterpart. I enjoy transferring my skills and knowledge between the two roles.

HOW DO YOU BALANCE YOUR WORK/SOCIAL LIFE WITH YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES OF BEING A SPECIAL CONSTABLE?

Nationwide Building Society has always been a strong supporter of social investment and that

‘Those who give up their time to volunteer as Special Constables are making a valued contribution to society and through Nationwide joining the Employer Supported Policing programme we are better able to support colleagues in carrying out their roles as Specials. The positive impact this programme can have on their ability to perform their roles, take part in development opportunities, and potentially assist with balancing the demands of a day job and the unique experiences as a Special Constable, is shown in the inspiring accounts of three of our Nationwide Specials’
Jane Hanson
Leader of People & Culture, Nationwide Building Society

WHAT ROLE DO YOU UNDERTAKE WITH NATIONWIDE?

I have worked as a Manager in the retail branch network for the last 10 years in various different capacities, such as, managing retail branch teams, operational and conduct risk and secondments to different supporting areas of the Society.

WHY DID YOU JOIN THE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY?

I originally joined the Special Constabulary as a natural step from being a Volunteer Police Cadet whilst in education. I joined with the mind of finding out more about the job to help me decide if it was something I wanted to do as a career.



is evident in everything we do. By allowing paid leave to volunteer for the police it has helped me with areas such as training to do my policing role which without the support I would have needed to use my holiday entitlement. Both Nationwide and Lincolnshire Police are strong supporters of wellbeing and Employer Supported Policing helps to ensure a good work life balance.

WHAT SKILLS DO YOU THINK THAT YOU BRING FROM THE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY INTO YOUR PAID WORK ROLE AND VICE VERSA?

Looking after members of the public in lots of different situations has helped me in both my roles as a police officer and in banking. I find myself often supporting people in difficult situations, the skills and knowledge I have developed in each role has been equally transferrable to the other. As a people manager in both of my roles I have been able to use skills, methods, knowledge and best practice to the benefit of both my employed and voluntary role.

WHAT WAS THE REACTION OF YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHEN YOU DECIDED TO JOIN THE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY AND VOLUNTEER TO UNDERTAKE FRONT LINE POLICING?

They weren't surprised I joined the Special Constabulary as from school I always said I wanted to be a Police Officer. What they are surprised at is that I am still policing 15 years later in a voluntary capacity. Everyone I meet is always fascinated and wants to know more when they find out what I do.

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THIS VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY TO OTHERS?

I absolutely recommend this type of volunteering opportunity to others. You might be interested in Policing as a future career or you might be looking at how you can use your skills to support others, the role as a Special Constable will deliver both of these and I personally find it very rewarding.



GAVIN COX - WILTSHIRE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY

WHAT ROLE DO YOU UNDERTAKE WITHIN THE COMPANY?

I work as a Subject Matter Expert with the ATM Network for Nationwide Building Society; I have been here for 8 years and undertaken several roles within the team building my knowledge as I go. I am also a trainer on the ATMs for branch staff and all new starters to our team.

WHY/WHEN DID YOU JOIN THE WILTSHIRE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY?

I have always been interested in joining the Police Force and helping people when they most need it, providing support and hope through tough times for victims and the vulnerable people we encounter every day. I joined the Special Constabulary in 2018 and have loved every part of it.

WHAT ARE THE BEST BITS ABOUT BEING A SPECIAL?

Being a Special Constable is so much more than you think; it's not just about supporting members of the public but also the regular officers so they can undertake their daily roles.

The more you put into being a Special Constable the more you develop knowledge and relationships with your assigned team, gain friends, develop yourself as a person and learn how to interact with many kinds of individuals.



Home Office

ESP EMPLOYER SUPPORTED POLICING



HOW DO YOU BALANCE YOUR WORK/SOCIAL LIFE WITH YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES OF BEING A SPECIAL CONSTABLE?

Nationwide is very good at supporting me and my manager understands that what I do is important to me and the Police Force. I volunteer mostly evenings and weekends when my team are on shift; this gives me the flexibility to police as much or little as I choose. Policing at these times and shifts you get to experience most aspects of policing and incidents officers attend. The fact that Nationwide gives me paid time off, through the Employer Supported Policing Scheme, enables me to volunteer for a day shift to support my colleagues during a very different time of day, and this helps develop and grow my knowledge even more.

which is useful whilst on patrol with my shift and within my daily paid role at Nationwide; there will always be a time where a challenging conversation happens and it's good to know techniques and ways to defuse the situation and help everyone get their point across by having their say at the right time. This role has also enabled me to understand how to engage with all individuals on a more personal level by understanding that there could be more going on that what the eye can see.

WHAT WAS THE REACTION OF YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHEN YOU DECIDED TO JOIN THE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY AND VOLUNTEER TO UNDERTAKE FRONT LINE POLICING?

It was a shock to my friends and family as I had not really told them about it until I passed the assessment day however once they knew they were very happy and have been supportive throughout my whole career so far as a Special Constable. My parents are very proud to see me in my uniform and are always speaking about it with joy in their voice. I also have a 7 year old daughter who is amazed that I am a Special Constable and always tells her friends about it and draws me pictures of me in uniform and driving police cars.

WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THIS VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY TO OTHERS?

Volunteering for the Special Constabulary is one of the best things I have ever done in my life and I hope it continues for a very long time. I am so proud to say I am a police officer and always try my best to help others and promote the Specials to all my friends and some have even applied themselves

This opportunity empowers you to achieve more, do more and succeed more at work and in life, I cannot put fully into words how much the Special Constabulary has changed my life and taught me along my journey, to the point I am even looking out for things when I am not in uniform.



WHAT SKILLS DO YOU THINK THAT YOU BRING FROM THE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY INTO YOUR PAID WORK ROLE AND VICE VERSA?

Being in the Special Constabulary has enabled me to develop my personal and communication skills



Home Office

ESP EMPLOYER SUPPORTED POLICING



If you need information on how your organisation can become an ESP partner please contact your Regional ESP Representative or ESP@Dutvsheet.com

ESP CAPABILITY
There are currently 988 Special Constables supported via 195 ESP Partners
There are 123 Special Constables supported via 44 Covid-19 ESP companies
There are 363 Special Constables in 174 companies that have an internal employee volunteering policy giving paid leave to Special Constables

APPEAL TO ALL SPECIAL CONSTABLES
When updating "My Details" on DutySheet PLEASE ensure you complete the dropdown box to input your Employer
Thank you

ESP COMPANIES FULLY REGISTERED SINCE 1 APRIL 2020
Astral Ltd
Brafe Engineering Limited
CGI IT UK Limited
Arriva - West Yorkshire
Destec Engineering Ltd
Digital Interactive Limited
HSO Customer Services Limited
Loughborough Schools Foundation
McColl's Retail Group - Merseyside area
McColl's Retail Group - Essex area
Nationwide
43 companies registered as formal ESP Partners 2019/2020

CGI PROUD TO SUPPORT EMPLOYEE SUPPORTED POLICING

In April 2020, with the support of Jas Samra, Employer Supported Policing (ESP) Lead in the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), CGI became partners on the ESP Scheme. CGI members who become Special Constables or Police Support Volunteers get 10 days ESP leave annually per year.

Below we meet some of the CGI members who work in partnership with Police colleagues within the Met and other Forces across the UK.



NICK DALE, VICE PRESIDENT, POLICE SECTOR, CGI UK AND SPECIAL CONSTABLE, DORSET POLICE

I have the privilege of leading the Police Sector at CGI. To understand the business and at the same time give back to the community I live in, I joined my local Force. Being a Special Constable has been very rewarding and has opened my eyes to the multitude of challenges within policing.

In discussions with our CGI UK President, we agreed to partner with the Met on the Employee Supported Policing Scheme and I am delighted that a number of the Policing Team and other parts of the business have now applied or are serving with their local Forces. Having the ESP Scheme as part



STEVEN SEWELL

of the CGI compensation and benefits means we are able recruit people that have an interest and commitment to Policing.

STEVEN SEWELL, MANAGER DELIVERY, GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY OPERATIONS AND SPECIAL CHIEF INSPECTOR

I always wanted to be a cop but in 1981 at the age of 19, I was a clear two inches below regulation height. In 2004, I watched a public information video asking, "Could you?", so I joined the Special Constabulary as a police officer, and have not looked back. I get to do the two jobs I love - that of an IT consultant and police officer. CGI joining the ESP initiative has allowed me to police the Covid-19 Pandemic with the option to extend the 10 days of paid leave to volunteer. CGI have been very flexible and supportive in their approach to policing.

Over the 16 years, I have been doing this I have



JONATHAN HANDFORD

been able to transfer my experience of policing in to my day job. My police experience has been a very positive element to my progression through CGI.

JONATHAN HANDFORD, INFRASTRUCTURE ARCHITECT, GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY OPERATIONS AND ACTING S/SGT, CMPG, WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

For over 15 years I have been a Special Constable with West Midlands Police. I can honestly say it is the best thing I have ever done. The opportunities and benefits offered is something no other volunteering role provides, such as becoming a Police Advanced and TPAC authorised driver.

I have worked for CGI since 2012 as part of the team delivering a large national policing programme. Working as a volunteer police officer has undoubtedly provided synergy between both roles. Additionally, since CGI has signed up to ESP, I feel supported and enabled by my employer's recognition to allow both CGI and me to further contribute to UK policing.



LAURA MILNE, DIRECTOR, POLICING SECTOR, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND SPECIAL DETECTIVE SERGEANT, METROPOLITAN POLICE

I was a regular officer in the Met between 2003 to 2018 and concluded that career as a Detective Sergeant to join CGI. When the Covid-19 Pandemic hit, the Met appealed for ex-officers to re-join to assist with the unprecedented resourcing challenges. At the same time, CGI had signed up to ESP. This afforded me the opportunity to re-join the Met. I undertook a fast track scheme enabling me to be operational in weeks. I re-joined the South West Basic Command Unit in the rank I concluded

my career. I use my old investigative skills to mentor probationary officers in the Violence Suppression Unit and to assist with investigations. I love the challenging and fast-paced nature of the job, and the satisfaction when I have helped a victim of crime, or identified a suspect. Policing is in my blood and being able to step back in and help, whilst challenging my professional growth in CGI brings a richness to my personal development.



ELKE DE PALMA, HR DIRECTOR, NORTH AND AUSTRALIA AND SCOTLAND BUSINESS UNITS AND STUDENT SPECIAL CONSTABLE, SURREY POLICE

I had been looking for an opportunity to apply my skills outside of my day job in a meaningful way whilst allowing me to develop myself through new challenges when I heard about the Special Constable Programme through working at CGI. Giving back to the communities we live and work in is a large part of our business ethos and I instantly knew this would be a great personal fit for me. Being a parent has made me feel more vulnerable and aware – I'm always so grateful to see uniformed officers in my local neighbourhood, near the school gates and whilst travelling to work – especially walking over London Bridge!

Colleagues who were already qualified were encouraging and enthusiastic and I felt a huge sense of achievement when I passed the assessment centre. I started the Special Constable Course in September and look forward to the new learning, making a positive contribution to my community and hopefully, creating a safer environment for our children.



Wednesdays nights 6 o'clock news."

Chief Inspector Neil Cook, Operations, said: "The BBC News piece on Covid enforcement at Trafford was a great opportunity to showcase our partnership approach and the support we receive from members of the Special Constabulary.

A last minute change of plan saw me step in to do the initial team briefing (fortunately I only featured for about 3 seconds!), and I was relieved to see it was Special Inspector Rob Mitchell who would be out on the ground with his team.

Despite some initial reservations about the news crew entourage, the end result was a confident delivery from S/Inspector Mitchell and a news item that represented Trafford well.

Trafford as a District really benefit from a great working relationship with our Special Constabulary colleagues, and especially under Special Inspector Rob Mitchell's leadership.

There have been constant resource challenges due to Covid isolations, and we usually get more than 600 extra duty hours a month from our dedicated team. So far Rob's team of 20 operational officers have put in a combined 4500hrs from January to July, which is a massive help to a front-line running at 65% of our establishment. As the Response Policing lead, we are really grateful to our Special Constabulary colleagues for the support they give us, particularly for big events and at key times."



GMP SPECIAL CONSTABLE ESCORTS BBC NEWS FILM CREW

On Saturday night, 22 August, Special Inspector Rob Mitchell paraded on for what he thought was going to be a normal (if there is such thing) Saturday night duty. But within minutes of entering the station was given an unusual task – to escort a BBC News Film Crew around Altrincham Town Centre for a story about night-time economy and how it's been affected by Covid-19.

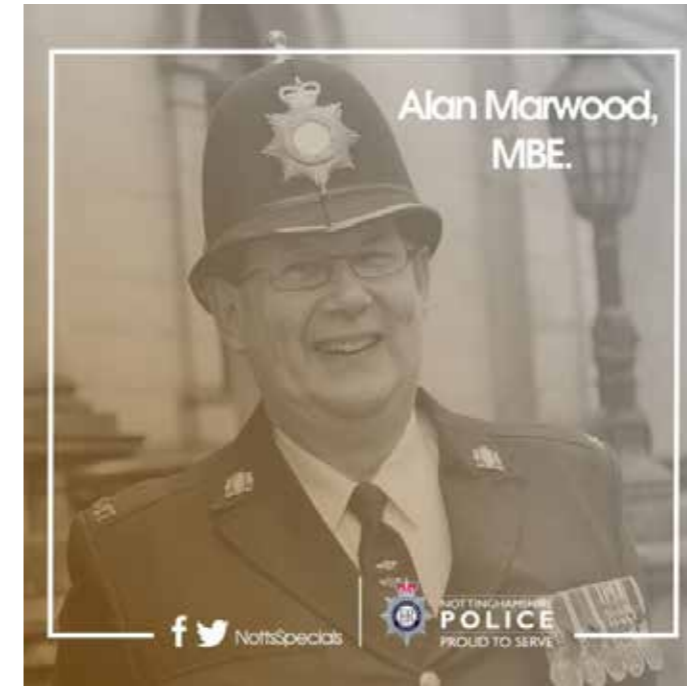
After hastily scribbling down some briefing notes to deliver to the team, on camera, Rob heard the words that would make anyone question why they had come in that night "You'll be ok being on camera won't you?" turning to see Chief Inspector Cook, looking over at him with an 'I owe you one' smile on his face.

Rob says: "After being micro- phoned up like a celebrity, I gathered my composure and we took the nervous drive into town. For the next 5 hours myself and my team would have the BBC in tow, recording our every move and interaction with the public."

"I was honoured to be asked to represent the District and GMP, but it got off to a shaky start with my first question to camera being answered with an, 'erm... er... not sure.' But we had a great film crew with us who quickly put me at ease and rolled the camera for a second time." Rob added.

"The next couple of hours felt like an eternity with no chance of forgetting the cameras were there, but the public of Trafford and my team did an amazing job. Unfortunately, but kind of glad, I can't find a link to the news story online but if you want to dig in the depth of iPlayer you'll find it 19 minutes into

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE SPECIAL CONSTABLE RECOGNISED IN ANNUAL BIRTHDAY HONOURS



A Nottinghamshire Police Special Constable has been formally recognised by Her Majesty The Queen in her annual Birthday Honours list.

Special Constable Alan Marwood is not your average police officer, having racked up an incredible 50 years' service to serve the people of Nottinghamshire. From tackling some of the county's most hardened criminals to leaping into action and saving peoples' lives, it's hard for anyone to match experiences on such a scale as Alan Marwood.

Starting out his career in August 1970, the then rookie Constable set out to make a difference in his local community. Armed with little more than a pocket notebook and a pen, a smartly pressed tunic and a pair of buffed patrol boots, Alan quickly became a familiar face in the local neighbourhood.

Just a few years into his career, Alan and a fellow

Special Constable were both shot at whilst on patrol in the Sneinton area. Not ones for shying away from confrontation, the duo gave chase and successfully apprehended those responsible, which subsequently led to lengthy prison sentences. Despite such a harrowing experience, Alan was not put off by his encounter and went on to demonstrate his commitment to the public.

The 68-year-old from Gedling, said: "Policing has been part of my life for a very long time. I enjoy putting on my uniform to help make a positive difference in my local community. I've been able to perform a wide range of duties during my career as a Special and my other role as a Paramedic has enabled me to bring transferable and recognised skills to the organisation."

"I never thought that I would continue to be a Special for all these years when I initially signed up, but it's been great and I've never regretted signing the dotted line."

Doubling up as an advanced Paramedic during most of his Specials service, Alan has been able to draw upon his skills on numerous occasions, delivering world class emergency first aid, enabling him to save the lives of at least six people, including that of a six-year-old boy who was choking near to where he was on patrol.

In 2012, he attended a fatal collision on the A6097 after a vehicle collided and burst into flames. Despite Alan's extreme bravery during the incident - which resulted in his stab vest being melted as he courageously battled to save the occupants; two people sadly lost their lives.

The career Special has also locked up two murderers during his time.

Learning of his new title, Alan added: "I'm overwhelmed by the whole thing. I never thought that I would receive such recognition. The things I have done during my time comes with the job. Policing has its challenges and hurdles but it's in an officer's nature to get on with it so to speak to help safeguard and protect communities."

"I would like to thank everyone involved in the process and pay tribute to my many colleagues who all do a fantastic job every single day."



resource and saving a six-figure sum in the first year.

Recently the team found a high-risk missing person who had absconded from hospital and provided overwatch and radio commentary as officers assisted the male. When he became violent and resisted, the team was able to talk in additional units, and record footage of the whole incident for evidential purposes, allowing the officers on the ground to focus on the task in hand. The team has also deployed their thermal imaging capability in partnership with Surrey Fire & Rescue Service to help situational awareness at large fires and to identify residual hot spots.

In response to the national Coronavirus Pandemic, the team have pulled together to turn out a daily double-crewed drone unit, 7 days a week since March, resourced entirely by Special Constables. The team started out using the M210 UAV and fortunately recently added the M2ED to its fleet; the latter has loudspeaker capability which has been used multiple times as a tactical option for dispersing large gatherings in breach of Coronavirus Regulations.

Ken Iredale, Chief Officer of Surrey Special Constabulary said: "Building on their successes in 2019, winning the South East Regional Special Team of the Year, I am proud to see how the Surrey Specials UAV Team have really stepped up to provide this valuable full-time capability. The small team has volunteered almost 1,500 hours since March 2020. This mirrors the dedication and extra contribution being made by the entire Special Constabulary during these challenging times."



SURREY SPECIALS DRONE TEAM

By Special Sergeant Tom Hurrell

On a cold damp morning in January 2018, a small team of Police Officers gathered in a quiet field in Rusper, on the Surrey & Sussex border, but this wasn't a rural crime operation or a morning raid. This was the first cadre of pilots from Surrey & Sussex Police to become Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) approved Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV – commonly known as 'drone') operators.

UAV capability is rapidly growing across sectors ranging from farming to the military. Surrey's Special Constabulary decided to really get behind this capability and learn how to harness it for policing. In a short time, with the dedicated support of a small team of volunteers, the Surrey Specials UAV Team has developed into a valuable resource for Surrey Police.

With a dedicated response vehicle and a team of around 15 Pilots & response drivers, the team have already responded to over 150 incidents in 2020. These range from 'fast-time' incidents such as searching for missing persons or suspects, to assisting with 'slow-time' enquiries such as intelligence gathering or collision investigation, working in partnership with many teams including Response, Neighbourhoods, Traffic, Firearms, Intel, Warrants, Police Support Units and Rural Crime.

The Surrey Specials UAV provision provides the Force with cost-effective aerial support. Their deployment often means the Force can avoid calling out the National Police Air Service (NPAS) helicopter, easing pressure on this valuable

SUFFOLK AWARD EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH TO SPECIAL CONSTABLES



Special Constable Simon Ward from Stowmarket, Suffolk, was named Employee of the month for May.

Chief Constable Steve Jupp said: "Employee of the Month" is a fantastic achievement. The standard of nominations was extremely high and I am delighted to advise that you have won the award. The hard work and support you provide in your role as a Special Constable in Stowmarket is second to none. I am aware you worked over 200 hours in April which shows absolute commitment and I have been advised of many fantastic jobs that you have attended, not least the recent appalling incident where two officers were assaulted in Stowmarket and your intervention was top class. Your colleagues describe you as "exceptional", "without doubt the best Special worked with", "a pleasure to work with".

"Your professionalism, dedication and true commitment are to be congratulated. Thank you for your continued support, and I am delighted to confirm you as a worthy winner of this award."



Special Constables Alexander Collins and Chantal Lovell, based in Rhodes House, Martlesham, have been named the Employees of The Month for August.

Chief Constable Steve Jupp said: "During the Covid lockdown you worked full duties alongside regular officers at Rhodes House, working tirelessly on earlies, lates and nights, during an uncertain period when you put yourselves at greater risk of Covid than staying at home. "I know that you both juggled day jobs around Specials duties, engaging with your employers who allowed you to work for the Constabulary full time. This all shows the true value of being a Special Constable, and brings together all the values that are so great about Suffolk including commitment, dedication, professionalism and teamwork."





GMP SPECIAL CONSTABLE NOMINATED AS AN UNSUNG HERO

Special Constable Lee Peacock of the City of Manchester District has been nominated within Greater Manchester Police as an unsung hero, following the hours he dedicated to the Force during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Lee works as a full-time electrician, but at the beginning of the Covid-19 outbreak he was furloughed from his paid job. During this uncertain period, Lee opted to dedicate his spare time to supporting GMP by volunteering with D Relief and over a period of three months, Lee followed the team's shift pattern working full shifts taking just two days off.

Lee was attested as a Special Constable in March 2020, said: "I love being a Special because I like to make a difference to somebody's day. Knowing that I can help people gives me enormous pride when it comes to putting on the uniform and serving the City I love. I always try to go the extra mile for people to help them, and my colleagues.

"During my time as a Special Constable, there have been some good days and some bad days. There are days when I have come home so happy that I have helped someone, but then there have been days when it's been quite emotional with jobs I have been to, but all I can do is give 110% all of the time.

"Since I've been part of the team on D Relief, everyone has been so welcoming and easy to get along with; they're a great bunch of people. I have a lot of respect for the team and during my time with them, I believe that we've established a really strong bond."

Speaking about Lee's dedication

to the Specials Constabulary, Sergeant Christina Hodgson-Sumner said: "I have been so impressed by Lee's attitude; he always gets stuck in, he has a fantastic rapport with the team and has a great willingness to learn. Just one example of his commitment to learning was when he voluntarily stayed on duty after an earlies shift to do some training on our ECINS system.

"After speaking to some of the other members of D Relief, we all agreed that Lee's hard work should be recognised as it would have been easy for him to stay at home whilst he was furloughed, but instead he threw himself in to helping the team at the City of Manchester and our local communities during these unprecedented times.

"It was great to witness Lee's devotion and commitment to supporting GMP. The hours that he dedicated to the Force during lockdown are commendable, and the support that he provided to the team is something that we are incredibly grateful for."



A SUCCESSFUL JOURNEY FOR SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE OFFICER

Ellie Chadbourne started her journey as a Police Cadet, then joined the Special Constabulary and on 1st September she completed her policing journey as she became a Police Constable.

She has recently written to the Special Constabulary, with the following; the message has been left in its original form, as she has managed to overcome her dyslexia disability:

"I am sending you this email to thank you, you're team and the whole volunteer program, I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for Cadets and the Special Constabulary. I have enjoyed every moment of volunteering for South Yorkshire Police for 5 years, and I can't be any more grateful to have you help me to the next stage of my life/career. I have found over the 5 years of being a volunteer I have grown and become more confident in myself to make the finally push to join South Yorkshire Policer as a regular Police constable. I found that the team in Cadets really did push me above my limits which showed in the Specials on our final night when I

took part of the speech. I feel part of a family, which I am proud to have and continue on in future. I know that 5 years ago when I first met you I wouldn't say boo to a goose, But many thanks to you, and your training team, Louise Rock, Faran Hanson, Toby Masters, Adrian Fuller, and Jill Thompson. They really saw something in me as did yourself, and gave me full support when I needed it and knew exactly when I could do it without any help too. This team of people are one in a million and I couldn't be any happier that I was part of the class 2019 which was the first class which was taught by Specials, I was honoured to be part of this course.

I found that now I remember the days of Cadets on Wednesday evenings and you coming in and teaching us drill, shouting our numbers from our gut, or teaching us the NDM, or the Golden hour, and then to a Wednesday evening which I was told I shouldn't miss one event on duty sheet as I've been using it for years, and the whole class confused why I knew the DCO of the Special Constabulary. As well as, stating I was the first Special Constable with my Sergeant course before I had even attested. I have learnt so many new skills and found my confidence, but looking back if was 15 year old Cadet again I wouldn't believe that I would be where I am now. I have certainly had many experiences, which I know now how to deal with, like doing CPR, handling someone who I've just arrested and talking to the public when they need help or just a friendly face to say hello to. There is many more stories and experiences I have but I just needed to say thank you.



I believe Thank you isn't going to be enough especially after all the help and support I've received over the years. I know I still can count on the great team I've met even when I am a Police Constable.

I hope to work with yourself and the team in the near future as a Police Constable, but I will always have 1090 as my Cadet number and Special Constable 7214.

Thank you so much, Ellie Chadbourne"

SPECIAL CHIEF INSPECTOR MARTIN GOODWIN REACHES 30 YEAR MILESTONE



Special Chief Inspector Martin Goodwin began his Specials career in August 1990, completing 30 years with Staffordshire Police Special Constabulary this year.

Martin began as a Special Constable in August 1990, working from Hanley for the first 10 years of his policing career. He was part of the shoplifting squad, dealing with a number of prolific offenders in the town centre with 3 other Officers.

From Hanley, he moved on to Newcastle in 2000 to become a Section Officer, now known as Special Sergeant. This began his time as

a team leader, supporting other Special Constables at Newcastle beginning their journey.

Martin was promoted to Divisional Officer 18 months later - now Special Inspector, to further his leadership skills and personal development. He remained with Newcastle for 2 years as a Divisional Officer supporting his Special and Regular colleagues.

A move back to Hanley to continue the Divisional Officer role came 2 years later. Martin loved his time at Hanley and enjoyed being part of the team. As well as providing excellent leadership to his team, he continued to support the Neighbourhood out and about on duties as this is what he enjoyed about policing the most.

Martin moved to Burslem around 8 years ago in 2012 and this is where he has remained for his career up to now. During his time back at Burslem he was presented with the opportunity to act in the role of Special Chief Inspector which then became substantive 3 years ago.

In his role as Special Chief Inspector Martin has had a positive impact on steering the leadership of his teams in the North, is a proactive member of the Senior Leadership Team promoting the development and upskilling of Special Constables across the County and is a fantastic colleague and friend to many.

From his lengthy career Martin has enjoyed working with different people and having close connections with colleagues as well as making a difference to the community. He has met HRH The Queen twice whilst on duty and the Prince of Wales once.



Outside of Policing Martin is a father of two and also a grandad of two. He's self-employed and runs his own business in the building trade where he enjoys the variety of work he is involved in.

Martin is a valued member of the Special Constabulary within Staffordshire Police and the Force hopes that they have his support for many more years yet!

REMEMBERING GLENN GOODMAN



North Yorkshire Police's Special Constables walked 28,000 steps in June in memory of Special Constable Glenn Goodman, who was murdered by a member of the IRA 28 years ago.

Mr Goodman, 37, and colleague PC Sandy Kelly were on patrol in the early hours of 7 June 1992 when they were both shot after making a routine stop of a suspicious vehicle on the A64 near Tadcaster. PC Sandy Kelly was seriously wounded but survived. Mr Goodman tragically died later that day.

Paul Magee, a member of the IRA, was jailed for life for his murder but later released under the Good Friday agreement.

Poignantly, the anniversary of his death fell on National Specials Weekend which concluded National Volunteers' Week – a weeklong celebration to recognise and say thank you for the contribution millions of volunteers make across the UK who, to use his own words, do it "to make a difference".



Unable to pay tribute in their traditional way due to restrictions in place around Covid-19, the Force decided to mark the date of his death with something that all Specials could take part in whether on or off duty, working their full-time jobs or if they were shielding at home.

From 6am 1 June until midnight on Sunday 7 June the Force's Special Constables each completed 28,000 steps in PC Goodman's memory.

Special Chief Officer Sharron Moverley-Holmes knew him and was also a serving Special Constable when he died. She said: "This weekend we remembered Special Constable Glenn Goodman on the 28th anniversary of his death while on duty on 7 June 1992. As we celebrated Volunteers' Week, it was a poignant and sobering reminder of the risks our extraordinary volunteers are prepared to face to protect the people of North Yorkshire.

"We will never forget Glenn and despite the current restriction not allowing us to pay tribute to him in the way we usually would, we are still remembering and honouring the sacrifice he made but just in a slightly different way this year. Our thoughts are with his family friends and former colleagues. We will never forget."

Chief Constable Lisa Winward said: "Glenn was volunteering to help make a difference in North Yorkshire when his life was so tragically and senselessly cut short. His death was a dark and tragic moment in the

history of North Yorkshire Police and he will never be forgotten – we will always remember him and the ultimate sacrifice that he and his family paid. Our thoughts are with all those who knew and loved Glenn – a true hero – as we remembered him on the 28th anniversary of his death."

As a result of the Steps for Glenn challenge the Chief Constable commended all those who participated with a Certificate of Inspiration.



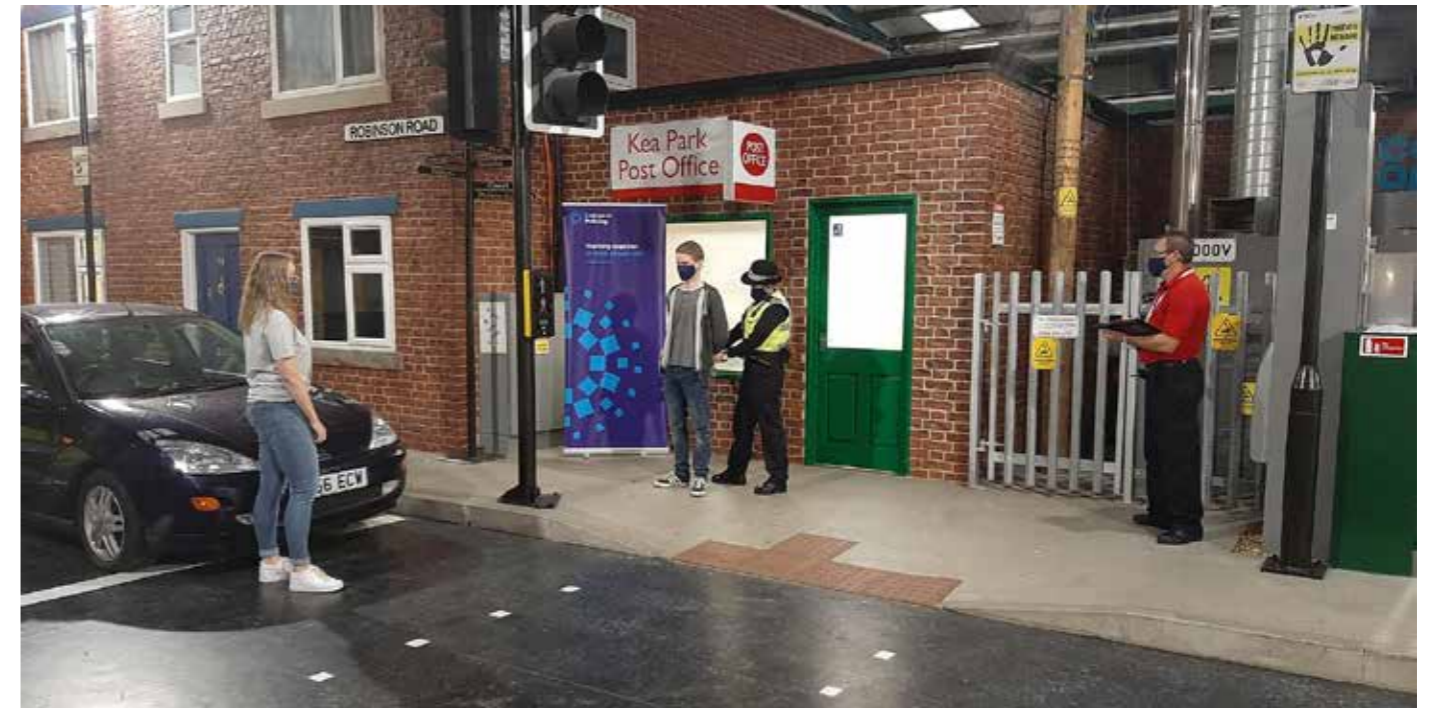
SOUTH YORKSHIRE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY TRAINING

What started as an interim measure to raise Special Constable numbers in South Yorkshire Police (SYP) has now become a regular sight at Robert Dyson House, the training centre for all new recruits joining SYP. With the Operational Police Training (OPT) Team having to divert their attention to the national uptake of regular officers and the quickly dwindling number of Special Constables in the Force, six Special Constables volunteered initially to help train new Special Constabulary Student Officers; however this quickly changed to a full takeover of the Initial Learning for Special Constables (IL4SC) Course. Given only 14 weeks to prepare for this endeavour, Special Chief Inspector Fuller, Special Sergeants Masters, Kirkham and Special Constables Rock, Thompson and Hanson observed the March 2019 IL4SC course before taking on the momentous task that was the sole delivery of the June 2019 course.

With the overwhelming success of this course, the Special Constabulary Operational Police Training (SC/OPT) Team was created to continue training future recruits. The second IL4SC cohort began in January 2020, which was severely impacted by the emerging Covid-19 Pandemic, with all training within Force having to cease. However, this didn't stop SC/OPT. Taking advantage of remote learning through Amazon Chime, the January 2020 Cohort continued their learning, and were attested in July 2020 with a socially distanced ceremony.

Even amidst the Covid-19 Pandemic, SC/OPT continued their courses taking on a third cohort in May 2020 returning to face to face but socially distanced training. During this course SC/OPT seemed to become a permanent fixture by taking on additional roles in Force. This included the upskill of over 70% of the Special Constabulary in the use of Body Worn Video, and the roll out of mobile devices to the Special Constabulary to ensure they could continue working during the Pandemic.

But the hard work of the team didn't end there. From December 2019, the SC/OPT have been preparing for the introduction of the new National Curriculum for training SCs. PEQF/SC has been developed with support from Deputy Chief Officer Batham and



the College of Policing, and is being delivered by South Yorkshire Police. Prior to the delivery of the curriculum to prospective Student Officers, the SC/OPT had the enormous task of re-writing the current IL4SC course to bring it in line with the new PEQF/SC criteria. This involved months of meticulous planning which included performing a GAP analysis on the IL4SC and new Phase 1 PEQF/SC content, creating new course timetables and creating brand new learning materials and lesson plans with the most current and up to date information. Once learning materials were created, they were then mapped into the new curriculum to ensure that all lesson objectives and criteria had been met and could be evidenced by the Student Officers.



From September 2020 a new cohort of 18 Student Special Officers have been enrolled in the new Phase 1 PEQF/SC curriculum and are on week 4 of their 14 week journey, learning their powers and responsibilities of Stop & Search in preparation for their time on the streets of South Yorkshire. Undoubtedly, their progress is being closely watched with interest by Forces across the nation and the College of Policing.

All of this work by SC/OPT is undertaken alongside their day jobs, but also alongside operational duties ranging from supporting Response Officers on District, engaging in successful disruption of anti-social vehicle use, and providing major incident resilience during a large scale wildfire in the county. Without the SC/OPT Team and the support from both the SC Senior Leadership Group and the regular colleagues, none of the above would have been possible. All of their work and determination has secured the succession of the Special Constabulary in South Yorkshire for years to come.



LANCASHIRE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY SUPPORT THEIR COMMUNITIES



Police Officers from Lancashire Special Constabulary based at Greenbank Police Station worked hard the weekend of 21 August supporting regular colleagues from Neighbourhood Policing Teams in Blackburn, Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley.

On Friday night Special Sergeant Scott, Special Inspector Allen Evans, along with Special Constables Gareth and Declan worked in the Feniscowles, Cherry Tree and Livesey area of Blackburn continuing to address the concerns of the public around the dreadful, anti-social driving issues which have caused so much concern and distress to many residents.



Speed enforcement was undertaken on Friday by Special Sergeant Scott and Special Inspector Allen whereby a number of drivers were given stern words of advice or reported for various offences such as speeding, failing to wear seatbelts, illegible number plates and no insurance. One vehicle was seized after it was initially stopped for speeding.

The driver was then discovered to be using the vehicle to make business deliveries without insurance, failure to wear a seatbelt and driving whilst disqualified. He had craftily, he thought, acquired a second driving licence whilst banned but thorough checks and good police work uncovered the facts and he is now facing a Magistrate in the very near future. Later on Friday Special Sergeant Scott and Special Inspector Allen attended a Road Traffic Accident just off the Grane Road, only to find a number of young people who had just climbed from a car after the driver had lost control and ended up in a field - thankfully, minor injuries and bruising only. The car, however, will unlikely see the road again.

Public Order issues in Hyndburn were also dealt with as well as a number of other jobs.

The Sunday night saw the officers in Ribble Valley where Special Sergeant Mat and Scott together with Special Constable Anna dealt with an intoxicated driver who provided a breath sample at 4 times the legal limit as well as Public Order and an important Safeguarding issue, ably dealt with by Special Constable Diane.

Special Inspector Allen said: "Many thanks to all of our Officers for turning out over the weekend - I am proud to work with you all!"



SPECIAL CONSTABLES IN NORTHUMBRIA PRAISED FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION

A team of volunteers have been praised for their work in keeping the roads safe – after more than 500 drivers were stopped for random drug tests.

Last month Northumbria Police revealed they had received funding from Newcastle City Council and Gateshead Council to purchase hundreds of new portable drug testing kits.

The equipment enables them to test drivers on the roadside and get immediate results telling them whether or not the driver is under the influence.

Traffic Officers had been utilising the equipment since the new drug driving laws were introduced.

But for the first time Special Constables carried out stop checks in Newcastle City Centre and Gateshead Town Centre to make sure nobody was putting lives at risk.

Now the Force has revealed that 533 drivers were stopped in seven days of Operation Beacon, with that enforcement coming over a four-week period.

Motorists stopped included both private drivers and taxi drivers with three people being arrested and three drivers summonsed to court.

Enquiries are ongoing with both local authorities

to establish if any drivers were in breach of their Licences.

Sergeant Pinner Rana, of the Northumbria Police Motor Patrols Department, has now praised the hard work and dedication of the specialist volunteers.

He said: "These men and women have full-time jobs and families at home but they have volunteered hours of their own time to keep the public safe. Their hard work and dedication is incredible and I am so proud to be able to work with individuals who are so committed to improving road safety.

"Over just seven days they have stopped more than 500 vehicles and taken dozens of dangerous vehicles off the road and made a number of arrests.

"They have targeted busy city centres as we get into a busy Christmas period and I have no doubt that their actions have made the roads a safer place.

"I want to thank both Newcastle and Gateshead Councils for their support with this operation and we will continue to work together to take dangerous drivers off the road."

Jonathan Bryce, Licensing Authority Lead at Newcastle City Council, said: "We are always happy to support our partners in proactive enforcement action when it comes to keeping residents and visitors safe in the city.

"We have stringent procedures in place to ensure vehicle and driver safety standards are met in Newcastle, but welcome any measures which increase emphasis on making sure that they are maintained. If licensed vehicles and their drivers fail to meet the expected high standards they will face the consequences as demonstrated here."

Anneliese Hutchinson, Service Director at Gateshead Council, said: "Drug testing is just one of the enforcement and preventative tactics that we use with our partners over the festive period to keep people safe.

"Gateshead Licensing Officers are carrying out a number of joint enforcement exercises on hackney carriage and private hire drivers and vehicles with Northumbria Police in the lead up to Christmas and we welcome this additional checking of drivers as it helps protect the public."





able to spend a proportion of my working hours volunteering as a Special.

HOW DOES BEING A COMMUNITY SPECIAL CONSTABLE DIFFER FROM BEING A SPECIAL CONSTABLE?

It is focused around local policing which means the role is intelligence led as I get to know the community well and spend time patrolling to make myself visible to reassure them. This helps deter criminals who are planning to come into the Hullbridge area to commit crime.

WHY DO YOU LOVE BEING A COMMUNITY SPECIAL CONSTABLE?

I have always enjoyed local community policing. It is something I have done before in my career, and something that I wanted to do again, alongside my other volunteer role within the Dog Section. Talking on a daily basis with the community who live in the village, listening to their concerns and trying to make a difference for them is very important to me.

WHAT'S GREAT ABOUT IT?

I love that it's my local community – I get to make a real difference in the area I live with my family. It's the town where my children are growing up so I want to try and make it safer for them.



HOW DO YOU FIT YOUR PERSONAL LIFE AND WORK COMMITMENTS AROUND BEING A SPECIAL?

With careful planning, that's all I can say really – It's about planning the duties to suit my family and give me a good work life balance.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO SOMEONE SITTING ON THE FENCE ABOUT APPLYING?

I could talk all day on this to attract potential candidates. As I said above, I have been doing this for more than 12 years and still have the bug for it. Once you are in, it's so enjoyable and you get so much satisfaction from it – it really is worth doing.

If you are thinking about it, please arrange a ride along with one of us to see what it's like. You can arrange a ride along by contacting specials. command.essex@essex.pnn.police.uk

ESSEX SPECIAL CONSTABLE TO POLICE PARISH AREA

We find out more about Essex Community Special Dan O'Connell, based in Hullbridge Parish. Under the scheme, the Council will fund the expenses of Volunteer Police Officers who will be designated to the designated Parish area

WHY DID YOU JOIN THE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY?

I have been a Special Constable for nearly 13 years. Growing up in a police family, it has always been a childhood dream for me to become a police officer however when I left school my career took me down a different path. I decided to join the Specials instead, after I chased someone who'd just stolen a Sat Nav from a car – back in 2000 when they were used more often. Obviously I caught up with him and the adrenalin rush I got from that was the reason I joined up!

WHAT'S YOUR DAY JOB?

I work for Essex Police in a Police Staff role within the Specials Command Team. I am the Coordinator for the West Local Policing Area. Essex Police runs Employee Supported Policing which means I am



EDF Energy has a long history of investing in the local communities around its sites and as a business they create jobs and opportunities that invigorate local economies. But it's their people, in particular, who are a force for good, strengthening their communities by helping others – either by giving up personal time or by using their allocation of two 'force for good' days per year.

We hear Tim's story who volunteers as a Special Constable for Avon & Somerset Police.

"I've worked in Finance since 2006 and my day job mainly consists of meetings, emails and knowledge based discussions. My Friday and Saturday nights can be more active as I'm a Special Constable serving Avon & Somerset Special Constabulary in the South Gloucestershire area. My duties are the same as regular colleagues - responding to 999 calls. On shift, there have been exciting, scary, sad and hilarious moments. But it's not all action and it can take hours to process a job after making an arrest.

Whatever I'm doing, it's a privilege to serve and support people in need. It also makes me proud to be part of the Police family. As I choose to police on Friday and Saturday nights when regular police resources are most in demand, it doesn't impact my day job. The company, my line managers and senior leaders have always been supportive of

my volunteering and I've also been able to make use of our Helping Hands days – last year I gave policing support at an off-site emergency incident exercise for Hinckley Point B, and this year I helped Police Firearms Trainers with their final assessment scenarios.

I'm part of the Forces Support Network (FSN) as the point of contact for Emergency Services Volunteers.

The FSN is open to all supporters of the Armed Forces and Emergency Services, not just ex-military personnel. Both activities put people in challenging situations and the support the network offers is much appreciated.



Across EDF Energy there are numerous Emergency Services Volunteers including retained Firefighters, Coastguard, RNLI members and Red Cross volunteers. Working with an organisation that wants its people to be a Force for Good makes these volunteering activities easier to undertake.

Having the support of the Forces Support Network within the Diversity and Inclusion groups also counts for a lot.

"IT'S A PRIVILEGE TO SERVE AND SUPPORT PEOPLE IN NEED. IT ALSO MAKES ME PROUD TO BE PART OF THE POLICE FAMILY."



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