

communicate

Compiled and edited by Chris English, Julia Pack and Mick Holland on behalf of the Southend Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership

On the beat

...with Southend's Police Community Support Officers



Police Community Support Officers Alie Jones and Paula Bickers patrol Southend town centre

The inspectors keeping our coastline safe



New approach to tackling domestic abuse in Southend



CDRP TEAM FOCUS



Name: Adam Penn
Position: Team Leader of Licensing at Southend Borough Council

Responsibilities

I manage a team of eight staff. We are primarily responsible for the licensing of taxis, gambling, alcohol and entertainment. We also deal with a number of 'lesser' licensing regimes including charities, firework sales and sex shops. Our team includes Enforcement Officers, who primarily ensure compliance with licence conditions, and admin staff who process the 3,000-plus different applications we get every year. We complete each stage of licensing from application to grant or refusal and onwards to enforcement and advice. There is an annual inspection programme for all licensed premises and vehicles.

Aims and Objectives

The Licensing Authority aims to supply a licensing regime that is fair to both licence holders and the public, and complies with the law. We contribute to the council's key priority of creating a safer Southend through membership of groups such as the Night Time Economy Group and Clubwatch. The projects put into place by these groups has helped contribute to a decrease in alcohol related violence within the town centre and seafront areas. We work closely with partnership organisations including the police, fire service and Environmental Health.

About me

I am a keen amateur photographer and have travelled all over the world in search of the perfect picture. When not behind the lens I'm supporting Newcastle United through thin and thinner!

Contact details

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Communicate is a quarterly publication produced on behalf of the Southend Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP). Please contact us with any comments or queries you may have:

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Previous issues can be viewed online by visiting www.southendcdrp.co.uk/downloads.php

Tesco is made up with winning poster designs



Pc Sharon Polkinghorn, Pc Nina Yates, Olivia, Lauren, Elle, Tesco store manager Richard Hatley, non-food manager Dawn White and security manager Natalie Glynn

Three pupils from The Eastwood School are celebrating, after their posters were chosen to be displayed in the local Tesco Extra superstore.

At recent Eastwood neighbourhood action panel (NAP) meetings, managers from Tesco highlighted ongoing issues with shoplifters stealing make-up from displays, with many of the culprits being girls under the age of 16.

The NAP members came up with the idea of going into schools and offering pupils the opportunity to design a poster to help prevent such crimes.

Local schools were approached and The Eastwood School students were

particularly responsive, and in total around 70 entries were received.

Head of Art at The Eastwood School, Mrs Sue Duprey, said: "I'm extremely proud of the hard work all the pupils put into the project and the final posters they produced – which were very individual and imaginative."

Tesco have now arranged for the winning designs to be blown up into bigger posters and displayed in the Westcliff store's cosmetics aisle by the make-up cabinets.

Richard Hatley is store manager of Tesco in Prince Avenue. He said: "An important part of being a responsible retailer and a good neighbour is to build successful relationships with local schools,

police and the community as a whole.

"We felt the introduction of a poster competition to local schools would help us to raise awareness of this issue amongst schoolchildren, by involving them in our efforts to reduce this type of offence.

Local neighbourhood constable Pc Sharon Polkinghorn said: "This whole process highlights the effectiveness of NAPs as, between us all, we've found a new way of approaching a crime issue that affects this part of the town.

"We're really impressed by the effort and thought that's gone into these posters and the winners should be very proud of themselves."

Cash rewards lead to wanted men arrests

Some of Southend's most wanted men have now been arrested thanks to a cash reward incentive offered by Southend Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

A reward of £250 was offered for information leading to the conviction of any of the ten men whose details were released by Essex Police.

Since then, eight of these men have been arrested by police - some as a direct result of calls received by members of the public following the

appeal.

Police will be regularly releasing details of wanted individuals via the local media to help bring them to justice.

Chief Inspector Andy Prophet of Southend police, said: "Now the public of Southend know who the wanted men are, they too are on the lookout for them, spurred on by a cash reward."

Simon Ford of Southend CDRP, said: "By offering a cash incentive, we

hope the public will be more inclined to come forward with information.

"We are keen to support the local police in their drive to arrest wanted people and put them through the criminal justice system."

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of people whose details have been released by police should contact the Intelligence Unit hotline on 01702 423152.

Alternatively, contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

SOS Bus looking for night volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help out during the night on the Southend SOS Bus in the town centre.

The bus, run by the YMCA, provides a safe haven for vulnerable and distressed people, victims of crime or drunk people who can stay on the bus until volunteers can arrange for them to be collected.

For more information contact Emily Middlemast on 01702 356060 or email vb@savs-southend.co.uk.

Take part in town's licensing discussion

Southend Council is asking residents for their views on key future licensing issues.

People can comment on the principles that regulate licensing applications for alcohol, entertainment and late night refreshment. For a copy of the policy, or to add your comments, contact the licensing team on 01702 215005 or email licact2003@southend.gov.uk. Consultation closes on 24 September 2010.

Domestic abuse week to raise awareness

Domestic abuse can happen to anyone but there are people in Southend who can help.

Domestic abuse awareness week (22-26 November) aims to showcase the support available across the borough.

For more information contact Althea Cribb on 01702 423190.

South Essex Homes wins national awards

South Essex Homes has won two national awards. Staff member Julie Chipperfield won Team Member of the Year and exhibition project Southenders won Best use of Communication.

Julie had raised over £4,000 for a local womens' refuge.

Volunteering makes you smile

By Emily Middlemast, Southend's Volunteer Centre Manager (SAVS)



Changing lives through volunteering

Are you stuck in a rut? Has life lost a bit of its shine? Are you looking for a new challenge or something a bit different? Think about Volunteering.

Volunteering is great for your community and makes the world a better place (you know that right?) but did you know it could actually make a massive positive impact on *your* life too?

What can Volunteering offer me?

Create more fun in your life – helping others is fun and the feeling you get

from doing something worthwhile is priceless.

Meet new friends – working together for a common cause is a great way to bond with others and become part of a community that you can stay in touch with long after you finish volunteering.

Learn new skills – if you are looking to get into employment, volunteering gives you the opportunity to gain valuable experience, references and skills that could lead to a new job.

Improve confidence – being a valued volunteer builds confidence and self esteem.

But what can I do?

There are hundreds of volunteering roles to choose from – there truly is something for everyone. If you are aged 16 or 106 there is a role waiting for you.

You can take part in a 'one off opportunity' or make a regular commitment, it is your choice - from general helping out, to roles that include training and an accredited qualification, or roles that are just simply a bit of fun

What have you got to lose?

You have everything to gain. Put the smile back on your face by calling the Volunteer Centre Southend today.

Emily can be contacted on 01702 356060. To find out more about the benefits of volunteering and to read about other people's experiences, visit www.savs-southend.org/changinglives

Ensuring Southend town centre remains safe after dark

Southend's Night Time Economy Group are working hard to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in the town centre.

The group consists of police, council, voluntary organisations and local businesses who take a lead on initiatives to ensure the area remains a safe and enjoyable place to visit.

Examples include the SQS Bus,

which provides a safe haven for clubbers who are injured or unable to get home; Clubwatch's 'Behave or Be Banned' scheme, which over 30 of the town's pubs, bars and clubs have signed up to; and an increased police presence at the weekend to deter troublemakers and improve public confidence.



Changing men's behaviour - a new approach to tackling domestic abuse

Southend Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership has introduced a specialist domestic abuse prevention worker to tackle the behaviour of abusive men in the borough.

Keelan Thomas has joined the partnership to initiate contact with men who have been arrested for domestic violence, prior to their release from police custody.

A first of its kind in the country, the role aims to support the man to change his behaviour and to improve the relationship he has with his partner and children in order to protect them from future harm.

It is hoped this new approach will improve understanding of negative effects of abusive behaviour and decrease the likelihood of men reoffending.

By working closely with Essex Police and other local agencies, Keelan will hold structured one to one sessions with the abuser as well as offering fully integrated support for their ex-partner and any children.

He said: "After working with the men I would expect them to understand the effects of their abusive behaviour, improve their ability to change their behaviour and to then be in a better position to have a loving and supportive



Keelan Thomas, Southend's new domestic abuse prevention worker

relationship with a partner and any children who may be involved."

DCI Lesley Ford of Essex Police's Domestic Abuse and Hate Crime Unit, said: "I am very excited about this new initiative. This provides a real opportunity for engagement at the earliest opportunity, aiming to change behaviour of those arrested and reduce repeat offending.

"This is another example of the

continuing excellent work by the partnership in our efforts to reduce the harm caused by domestic abuse in our community."

The service will be for men over the age of 18 who have been arrested for abusive behaviour towards an adult partner.

Keelan is based at Southend Police Station and can be contacted on 01702 423192.

Operation Liberal targets Rogue Traders

Rogue traders were targeted as part of a national day of action across the borough.

Operation Liberal took place on 30 June and is a joint campaign involving police, council trading standards officers and Government agencies.

It aims to highlight the dangers of cold callers and the perils of allowing strangers into your home.

Last year's operation saw nearly 200 people arrested, £200,000 worth of property recovered, 1,800 companies checked and more than 10,500 vehicles inspected.

The day helps to make people aware of the dangers of rogue

traders and alert them to the obvious signs to look out for and how to avoid them.

Many distraction burglaries are linked with rogue traders making it even more important to combat.

Councillor Tony Cox, head of public protection at Southend Council, said: "Tackling rogue traders is a big priority for the Council's Trading Standards team.

"Unscrupulous rogues and distraction burglars prey on the most vulnerable people in our community and can devastate their lives, so it is essential to make sure everyone knows the risks and how to avoid them.

"By joining forces with the police in campaigns like this we can reassure and educate people about how to protect themselves."

Rogue traders generally prey on the elderly and vulnerable, scamming and conning them out of their money by extracting payment for half-hearted, unnecessary jobs around the house.

They typically turn up unexpectedly asking for a minimal fee for a job that doesn't really need doing and turns into a much bigger fee by the end.

Residents are urged to report any cases of rogue traders or uninvited callers to Trading Standards via Consumer Direct on 0845 404 0506.

On the beat

...with Southend's Police Community Support Officers



Neighbourhood Policing is all about listening to your concerns, acting upon issues that matter most to you and helping you feel more confident in your community. Each neighbourhood has a dedicated policing team that typically includes a sergeant, police constable, police community support officers and special constables. *Communicate* spent some time on patrol with the borough's policing teams to see how they are working hard to make our communities safer and stronger.

Eastwood Tuesday 15 June, 1.30pm

The afternoon started at Eastwood Police Office where I met Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) Louise Tate and Julie Small.

Before we headed out on patrol, I asked Louise what she feels are the benefits of her role in the local community. She said: "We spend most of our day on foot patrol in the area so we get a really good general knowledge of the streets and problems.

"Stopping to speak with residents often reveals local issues that the public initially don't want to bother the police with, such as anti-social behaviour.

"Local residents get to know our faces which helps to build trust and gives them the confidence to tell us about any problems or concerns they have in the community."

Leaving the police office, we headed towards Eastwood Park where Louise spotted three children hanging around by an alleyway. As soon as they saw us, the kids ran away and both Louise and Julie gave chase, wondering why they were out of school.

After a quick search of the area, Julie spotted the children hiding in a garden and ushered them out.

Louise explained to me after – "As part of a truancy check, we took their details as well as the name of their school. Normally we would have called the school as we are required take them back in or escort them home, but their parents showed up and confirmed they had notified the school of their absence."

After explaining to the embarrassed children that it's never a good idea to run away, Louise and Julie continued through Eastwood Park and residential streets, stopping to talk to local residents along the way.



Top right: PCSOs Julie Small (left) and Louise Tate talk to a young girl who they suspect is truancing. **Middle:** The Beaver tower block and; **Below:** Eastwood Park.

Fact-box

PCSOs can't make arrests and they don't carry handcuffs or a baton. They rely on their ability to understand and communicate with some of the most challenging people in some of the most difficult situations.



On any given day there are hundreds of people walking around the town centre shopping, meeting friends and colleagues or just out to enjoy the sights.

For PCSOs Alie Jones and Paula Bickers there's no such thing as a quiet day. "There's so much happening on any given day, you just don't know what might happen next," Alie explains.

"An 'average' day routine just doesn't exist, but we really enjoy the variety the job brings and the different people we meet day in day out."

Today's patrol began at the top of the High Street where I met up with Alie and Paula.

Straight away we were pacing down the High Street to find a young woman who claims to have been assaulted.

Alie spoke to the victim to find out what happened and for a description of the person while Paula used her radio to contact the Council's CCTV Centre to find out if any cameras had captured the incidents.

The officers can also use the 'town-link' radio system which links all of the shops and security staff together.

"It means we can use the security teams as an extra set of eyes and ears to help identify suspects and other individuals," Alie explains.

"It's an immediate flow of information which allows us to cover more ground."

After ensuring the young

woman was OK, Paula and Alie went to the CCTV Centre to look at video footage of the incident.

Details of the incident were logged and given to a Police Officer to take over the case.

Leaving the CCTV Centre we headed towards Warrior Square Gardens where a man was spotted drinking alcohol.

Alie and Paula explained to the man it is illegal to drink in a designated 'alcohol exclusion zone' and seized the alcohol from him. They promptly tipped the alcohol away and moved him on.

Back on the High Street, Alie and Paula offered directions and advice to several members of the public before heading towards the Royals Shopping Centre and Pier Hill.

Reports of a theft from a clothes store came through the radio, so we headed back up the High Street to investigate.

Within ten minutes Alie and Paula were already at the shop talking to the store manager in order to get a description of the suspects.

Once again the town-link radio was used to alert nearby security staff in the hope that they might still be in the area.

Clockwise from top: Paula Bickers (left) and Alie Jones patrol the High Street; using the CCTV system; giving directions and advice to member of the public; confiscating alcohol from man seen drinking in park; reporting a theft from clothes shop using town-link radio.



PCSO Vanessa Toohy has been based at Shoebury for the past six years and has got to know the local area and its residents well.

She has also developed strong relationships with other agencies in the community including the Pier and Foreshore Inspectors who patrol East Beach, ensuring it is safe for residents and visitors.

Vanessa said: "We are able to share with each other information of any incidents that have occurred and work together to tackle nuisance behaviour."

Walking through Shoebury Garrison, we passed the Grade II listed building, Officers' Mess, which suffered from a large fire in 2009. Vanessa had to ensure people kept a safe distance away from the area which was close to the beach.

As we walked back towards the High Street, we came across a dog that appeared to be lost, with no owner in sight. Vanessa made sure the terrier was OK by getting some water from a local shop while a local resident gave her a spare dog lead to use. Vanessa waited for the dog to be picked up and taken to the Council's animal warden to be checked over and returned to its owner.

Fact-box
PCSOs work within neighbourhood policing teams helping them to solve local issues by getting out into the community, meeting people and offering advice and support.



Top: PCSO Vanessa Toohy comforts a stray dog.
Bottom: Vanessa with Andreas Lacovou, Pier and Foreshore Inspector at Shoebury's East Beach.

To contact your local neighbourhood policing team, turn to page 11 for a list of telephone numbers. Alternatively, visit www.essex.police.uk

Neighbourhood spirit cleans street

Neighbourhood Watch members joined forces to tackle litter and weed problems on their street.

The Big Tidy Up took place on Saturday 12 June in Avebury Road, Westcliff.

Colette O'Neil, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, said:

"There was a strong response and everybody got busy collecting litter and pulling up weeds from the pavement."

Southend's 2020 community vision

Southend Together Partnership has launched its 'Community Plan' aimed at creating a safer town with strong, confident and proud communities into 2020 and beyond. To read the plan visit www.southend.gov.uk or contact 01702 215000.

Police raise money for children's charity



Pc Will Cheung and Pc Paul Ledger with Annie Thomas from CLIC Sargent

Police officers from Shoebury have raised £600 for a children's cancer charity at summer community events.

Officers from Shoebury's neighbourhood policing team have been raising the cash for the CLIC Sargent charity by running a football target game, which was designed by students from Shoeburyness High School.

Local neighbourhood constable Pc Paul Ledger said: "We ran the football game at the Shoebury Fair and the Robin Hood Country Show this year as

such events provide us with a great opportunity to get out there and meet the public we're serving and help to break down barriers between police and the local community.

"We figured we may as well use the chance to also raise money for charity and we chose CLIC Sargent, who do lots of excellent work caring for children and young people with cancer. We would like to thank everyone who took part and local businesses who provided us with prizes."

Life's a beach



Foreshore Inspectors ensure our coastline remains a safe and enjoyable place for all to visit. **Peter Fitz-Gibbon**, Southend Council's Pier and Foreshore Supervisor, reveals the important work they do.

During the months of May to September, Foreshore Inspectors are stationed along the Southend coastline between East Beach, Shoeburyness and Two Tree Island, Leigh.

The seafront is divided into seven sections with an inspector patrolling throughout the day between 10am and 6pm.

Emergency telephones are tested to check that they are working correctly and each lifebelt storage box is inspected to ensure it contains a lifebelt.

The seawalls, jetties, steps and the beaches are scrutinised for any defects that could be a danger to the public, while beaches are also inspected for cleanliness.

Inspectors are also responsible for the 500-plus boat moorings in the Southend area. This includes the initial allocation of the mooring to the boat owner and also the reporting of anything untoward with the craft once moored.

They oversee the launching of boats at the two main slipways in the area - Ness Road, Shoeburyness and Two Tree Island.

One of the primary roles of the Foreshore Inspector is the safety of visitors to the beaches and those afloat on the water. With the tide in our area retreating over a mile in places, Inspectors must be vigilant of people being cut off by an incoming tide.

Some visitors are completely unaware of the time of high and low water and can be easily caught out when the tide turns.

Inspectors will give them the times of tides and offer other water safety advice. They have a direct link with HM Coastguard via the radios they



Inspectors Alan Gray and Steve Howard secure a marker buoy in preparation for the Southend Airshow.

carry and often have to alert the Coastguard to potential life threatening situations.



Inspector Alan Gray tests an emergency telephone

The Coastguard service will also ask for the assistance of Foreshore Inspectors during both emergency situations and to help them with

various incidents such as occurrences of unexploded artillery.

All Inspectors are first aid trained and are regularly called upon to administer these skills.

The team also enforce bylaws and control orders such as bait digging restrictions, cycling on the pavement and dogs on the beach during the summer.

They play an important role in many special events held on or around our foreshore throughout the year such as the annual Southend Airshow where they assist with laying marker buoys for the flight path and exclusion zone.

The Inspectors also act as crew on one of the department's patrol boats which ensure the exclusion zone is adhered to during flying times.

The Pier and Foreshore team can be contacted on 01702 215620. Alternatively, visit www.visitsouthend.co.uk for more information and advice.

Name that tune!

Can you guess the name of these songs from their lyrics?
Give it a go - the songs or artists relate in some way to crime and disorder...

“ The drummer boy from Illinois went crash, boom, bang
The whole rhythm section was the purple gang ”

“ I'll send an S.O.S. to the world ”

“ I was born in the wagon of a travellin' show
My mama used to dance for the money they'd throw ”

“ As he came into the window, it was the sound of a crescendo ”



“ They call it instant justice when
it's past the legal limit ”

“ Last night I was dreaming
I was locked in a prison cell
When I woke up, I was screaming
Calling out your name ”

Answers will be printed in the next edition of Communicate

HandyVan security scheme for over 60s



Ron Patchett,
Southend's
HandyVan fitter

If you are a Southend resident over the age of 60 and would like to feel more secure in your own home, contact our HandyVan service to have high-quality home security equipment supplied and fitted free of charge.

All work is carried out by trained HandyVan fitter, Ron Patchett, who will visit your home to carry out a full security check. He can then arrange to fit locks, bolts, door chains and viewers, smoke detectors,

carbon monoxide detectors, mobility rails and more.

The scheme is fully supported by the charity Age UK (formerly Age Concern and Help The Aged).

For more information or to request a HandyVan visit, contact Mick Holland on 01702 464199.



Useful Contacts



Community Safety Unit

Community Safety Manager	simonford@southend.gov.uk
Community Engagement Officer and Neighbourhood Watch Enquiries	01702 464199 southendnhw@aol.com
SMAART (Southend Multi Agency Anti social Social Behaviour Response Team)	01702 423504 smaart@southend.gov.uk
Domestic Abuse Partnership Officer	01702 423190
Crime Reduction Officer	01702 423187
Media and Communications Officer	0300 3334444 ex.470414

Southend Borough Council

General number and out of hours	01702 215000
Parking, Highways & Transport	01702 215003
Environmental Health, Trading Standards & Licensing	01702 215005
Waste, Fly tipping, Fly posting & Graffiti	01702 215006
Leisure, Culture & Tourism (including leisure & sports facilities, museums & parks)	01702 215011

South Essex Homes

0800 833160/163

Youth Offending Service

01702 534300

Street Engagement Team
07786822870 or
07786676064

Essex Police

General number 0300 3334444
In an emergency 999

Essex Police Neighbourhood Policing Teams

Eastwood/St Lawrence	07816 661693
Belfairs/Blenheim/Prittlewell	07817 968093
West Leigh/Leigh/Chalkwell Marine	07866 545291
Victoria/Milton/Kursaal	07817 968114
St Lukes/Southchurch/Thorpe	07974 148602
West Shoebury/Shoeburyness	07710 086590



To report dumped rubbish and graffiti Email: council@southend.gov.uk or call 01702 215000

You can now follow Southend CDRP Twitter and Facebook for the latest news and information:



www.twitter.com/southendcdrp

facebook

Search 'Southend CDRP' and join our fan page.

To report anti-social behaviour contact SMAART 01702 423504

REMEMBER
In an emergency always dial 999

How to beat the bogus caller

Most people who call at your home will be genuine but it's important to be on your guard and remember there are bogus callers about. Follow our simple advice to stay safe:

- Think about installing a door chain and use it.
- If you need your glasses to read identification, close the door before going to find them. Don't leave the door open and unattended.

- Remember to lock the back door when opening the front.
- Don't be pressured into letting someone into your home. If in doubt, keep them out!
- If you have been the victim of a distraction burglary, dial 999. To report suspicious cold callers contact Trading Standards via Consumer Direct on 08454 040506 or your local neighbourhood policing team.

Answers from Summer 2010 issue, 'Logic Problem'. Were you able to solve it? The answers were:

1. Mrs Brown from Thorpe Bay received a purse chain to protect her purse from being stolen when out shopping. She heard about the Roadshow at her local Neighbourhood Action Panel (NAP) meeting.
2. Mrs Smith from Westcliff received a personal attack alarm after reading about the Roadshow in Communicate newsletter.
3. Mrs Jones from Leigh got her bicycle security tagged after finding out about the Roadshow in the local newspaper.
4. Mr Robinson from Shoebury was handed a UV pen to mark his property after seeing the Roadshow advertised on a poster.
5. Mr Wright from Chalkwell received an intruder alarm after hearing about the Roadshow service from a friend.

For more information on personal and home security contact our Crime Reduction Officer on 01702 423187.

Large print versions of Communicate can be produced upon request

Southend Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership's

Community Safety Roadshow 2010



Our partners include:



- Come along to one of our free events to benefit from the following services -
- Electronic bicycle and mobility scooter tagging
 - Property postcoding phones, cameras, iPods and other valuables
 - Personal attack alarms, purse chains and intruder alarms
 - Advice on crime prevention, health, waste and recycling and much more

Southend Hospital (Hospital Watch event)

Wednesday 1 September, 2pm to 4pm

Southchurch Library, Lifstan Way

Saturday 11 September, 9.30am to 1pm

ASDA, North Road, Shoebury

Wednesday 15 September, 2pm to 5pm

University of Essex (Southend Campus)

Wednesday 6 October, 2.30pm to 5pm

Kent Elms Library

Saturday 23 October, 9.30am to 1pm

Southend Hospital (Hospital Watch event)

Tuesday 30 November, 2pm to 4pm



For the latest information visit www.southendcdrp.co.uk or contact Mick Holland on 01702 464199



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