

# communicate

Compiled and edited by Julia Pack & Mick Holland on behalf of the Southend Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP)

# Summer Thievin' ...happened so fast

During the long days of summer, it's all too easy to get lazy about things that matter – such as ensuring that you and your belongings are kept safe.

Police in Southend are now urging residents to think about the security of their property as they strive to keep cool in the hot weather.



## PURSE DIPPINGS

Police in Southend are launching a new leaflet campaign (see image below) to educate shoppers, especially the elderly, on how to keep their purses safe when out and about this summer.

- ⇒ Always keep your purse in a fastened bag
- ⇒ Keep control of your bag by holding it close to your body
- ⇒ Avoid carrying too much cash
- ⇒ Never leave your bag unattended
- ⇒ Use a purse chain to secure your purse to your bag
- ⇒ Never resist anyone trying to snatch your purse or bag



## BURGLARY

Local District Commander Chief Inspector Glen Westley said: "We all know how difficult it is to keep cool during warm weather, but we'd urge residents to think twice before opening all their doors and windows, as this provides an open invitation for thieves. Even when you're in the house or in the garden, a passing opportunist burglar could chance their luck and take a look inside your home.

"When you do go out, ensure you go around the whole house closing and locking all doors and windows. It may be hot when you come home but it won't take long to cool down – nowhere near as long as it would take to rectify things in the aftermath of a burglary!"

## CAR CRIME

If you're just nipping into a shop, you may be tempted to leave your car unlocked. After all, you'll only be leaving it for a few minutes...

Well next time that thought crosses your mind, remember that it only takes seconds for a thief to open your door and snatch whatever they can find. Don't take the risk - remove your valuables, close all windows and lock up every single time you leave your car.

Bear in mind that during one weekend in July, six cars were broken into in the Southchurch / Shoebury area.

Five of those cars were unlocked.



# CDRP Team

# FOCUS



**Name:** Althea Cribb  
**Position:** Domestic Abuse Partnership Officer

### Responsibilities:

- Co-ordinate the Southend Domestic Abuse Forum.
- Drive forward the partnership work responding to domestic abuse in Southend.
- Ensure partner agencies are working together in the best way on domestic abuse, aiming for a consistent response to all members of the community.
- Develop publicity and awareness raising materials to ensure the community is aware of services that are available.

### Activities to address crime and anti-social behaviour:

- Not all domestic abuse incidents are crimes, but many are, and the Police play a key role as first response to domestic abuse incidents. I work closely with the Police and other criminal justice agencies to ensure good working relationships and consistent responses to victims and perpetrators of abuse.
- Domestic abuse can also present as anti-social behaviour, when the abuser's behaviour impacts on those outside the home as well as inside.
- The Southend response to domestic abuse victims and their children, and to perpetrators, is, and must be, much wider than just one focussed on crime. It is estimated that only a quarter of all victims of abuse ever tell the Police, and that is why I work with the voluntary sector, the housing department and social housing organisations, children's services, adult services, and all health agencies, to make sure that we are supporting victims and their children accessing any service, as well as working to hold perpetrators accountable for their behaviour.



- Domestic abuse can happen to anyone, and has a significant impact on our community and how safe people feel inside and outside their homes. I want to make sure that if it happens to someone they know it is not their fault, that they are not alone, and that support is available. And we want perpetrators to know that if they are abusive, their behaviour is unacceptable and they will be challenged.

### Background:

- Worked on the National Domestic Violence Helpline answering calls from victims of domestic abuse, providing emotional and practical support and a way to safety.
- Completed an MSc in Gender and Politics, including conducting research on the history of Government policy on domestic abuse, and the impact voluntary organisations have had – and continue to have – on this area.
- Most recently worked for the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, as Domestic Violence Projects Officer, a similar role to this one in Southend.

**Contact details:**  
[AltheaCribb@southend.gov.uk](mailto:AltheaCribb@southend.gov.uk)  
**01702 344329**

Southend Domestic Abuse Support Service offers advice, support and safe accommodation to women and children fleeing domestic abuse. They also offer support to women who are experiencing, or who have fled, domestic abuse and wish to remain in their own home.  
**The contact number is 01702 291266**

# CPS join borough patrol

Recently, the District Crown Prosecutor for South East, Michelle Brown, along with Crown Advocate and Anti-social Behaviour specialist Ian Elkins joined PC Mark Goodchild and Anita McGinley from SMAART\* on a patrol across the borough.

Throughout the evening the patrol took in all areas of the borough focusing particularly in areas where SMAART are working to combat anti social behaviour including current and past hotspot areas. They were able to provide information relating to the work carried out in partnership to solve these problems and of the impact this has had on the community. This was of particular interest to Michelle who is leading on community engagement for the Crown Prosecution Service.

The patrol included visits to Southend seafront police station, the CCTV control room and the SOS Bus. These gave Michelle and Ian an insight into not just the role of the police in dealing with crime and disorder but also that of other partners and agencies.

Michelle Brown said "I take my role as District Crown Prosecutor and Community Prosecutor for the Southend area very seriously. I will continue to work with groups and individuals, alongside other members of the Criminal Justice System throughout the area to help support victims of crime. I will take on board the comments and views of the community of Southend to enable



*Michelle Brown takes a look at the technology available at the borough's CCTV Control Centre*

me, as a prosecutor, to have a greater understanding of the needs and concerns of the residents. Our aim is for the Crown Prosecution Service to fully engage with the people of Southend and to continue to build a world class prosecuting service that represents the public concerns through openness, fairness, and transparency."

Following on the success of this visit we will be carrying out further patrols with our partners throughout the year.

\*SMAART is the Southend Multi Agency Anti Social Behaviour Response Team

# Park Watch meets on site

In June, Parks Management Officer Ian Brown led a Park Watch meeting, which involved a walk-about session throughout Priory Park to discuss forthcoming proposals to improve facilities in the park for residents.

All are welcome to come along to these meetings, which provide a good opportunity to find out more about our beautiful public parks and gardens and to have your say on any developments.

Keep an eye on [www.southendparkwatch.org.uk](http://www.southendparkwatch.org.uk) for details of the next Parks Watch meeting.



# Community Crime Fighter

The Community Crime Fighter programme, announced by the Home Secretary last autumn, provides training for local community activists; e.g. tenants and residents leaders, Neighbourhood Watch coordinators and Ward Panel chairs. The training gives information about the services they can expect to receive from the police and criminal justice agencies and how they can work closely with those services to get results.

Keeping community activists up to date and informed will help to increase their confidence in local services and to help them to assist local services and agencies in doing their job.

Over 1,500 Community Crime Fighters have been trained so far and the feedback has been excellent. 92% said that as a result of the training they felt better prepared to play a role in helping to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in their area.

Dates and venues have been secured for a further seven 'one day' Community Crime Fighters training events, including one in the Eastern Region. These will take place around the country during the autumn and will provide an opportunity for volunteers and activists in your area to get involved in the programme.

Louise Casey will be providing the keynote address at each of these events and we will be using a mixture of local and national facilitators to run the workshops.

Finally, these events are part of the same series of events that were ran earlier this year – so if volunteers in your area have already attended a 'one day' Community Crime Fighter training event they will be unable to secure a place at these events. These events are for volunteers and community activists, not workers from your own or

other agencies and delegates will need to be over the age of 16 and not in full time education, so I would be grateful if you could pass this invitation on to any groups / individual that you think may be interested in attending.

The events are **free** to attend, lunch and refreshments will be provided and help is available with travel costs if required.

## **Dates and locations:**

South East: Brighton                      Tues 13th October

East:                      Newmarket                      Weds 11th November

To book a place potential delegates should call the Community Crime Fighters registration desk on 0800 197 2965. They can also book electronically at: [www.communitycrimefighters.org.uk](http://www.communitycrimefighters.org.uk) quoting booking reference CCF02

## **Community Crime Fighters Club benefits**

All those attending the Community Crime Fighters training are offered a range of additional support which includes:

- Access to a Community Crime Fighters telephone line
- Quarterly newsletter
- Additional training opportunities

If you have any queries about these events please contact Frameworks who are managing the delegate registration process on 0800 197 2965.



## Useful numbers

### Neighbourhood Policing Teams

Southend Central –	07817 968114
Southend High Street –	07791 315961
Southend Seafront –	01702 613449
Chalkwell Marine –	07866 545291
Blenheim –	07817 968093
Eastwood –	07816 661693
Shoebury –	07710 086590
Southchurch –	07976 325346

To report dumped rubbish and graffiti,  
email [doete@southend.gov.uk](mailto:doete@southend.gov.uk) or call 01702 215000

### CDRP Manager

### Community Safety Manager

Simon Ford - 0300 333 4444 ext.30860

### Crime Reduction Officer

Lorna Watson - 01702 423187

### Community Engagement Officer

Mick Holland - 01702 464199

### Media & Communications Co-ordinator

Julia Pack - 01702 423138

# A voice of wisdom for Southend

The Older People's Assembly is a people's parliament for Southend, who are prepared to take on issues that affect the well being of the community.

With vulnerable residents, there is, more than ever, a need for the OPA to work in Southend, taking issues from the residents that concern their well-being makes a significant impression. Being completely independent, the Assembly raises



issues which affect local people, and invites providers of services to answer and make improvements to those currently on offer. These providers are then invited back to explain what they have done.

With a full complement of trustees, new tasks are being undertaken to develop a stringent platform for the community to become interactive and involved. Sub groups of the Assembly will help to bring cohesion into the framework and with Government initiatives to strengthen the Assembly; a definite arena for the future of Southend is the Assembly, advising service providers with a strong and distinct voice.

Your views and input on the progress Southend is making in its administration, is part of what the Assembly stands for, so if you want to know more or become involved, then contact the Secretary on 01702 510316 or email: [members@southendopa.org.uk](mailto:members@southendopa.org.uk) for further information or visit our website: [www.southendopa.org.uk](http://www.southendopa.org.uk)

# Pedal Powered Policing

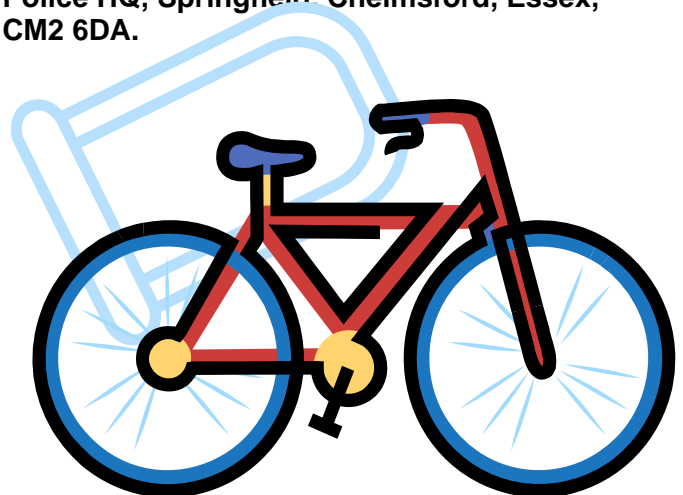
Police officers are getting back on their bikes to patrol the streets as part of Operation Velo.

300 officers across Essex are now utilising bicycles as part of their daily patrols under the new operation, which launched on 1<sup>st</sup> July and responds to public demands of wanting to see more police officers on the beat.

Being on bicycles allows officers more flexibility than cars in many scenarios, for example they are better placed to follow criminals who are on foot. Also being more visible allows them to provide a reassuring presence to the local community.

A recent good example of Operation Velo in action involved PCSOs on cycle patrol at Garons Park golf course in Southend, where they were told about some youths stealing golf flags and generally being a nuisance. The officers caught up with the boys on their bikes and spoke to them about their behaviour, before they were taken to apologise to the golfers and the course manager. This simple action, returning to old-fashioned policing, was very effective and was only possible thanks to the officers being able to reach the youths by bike.

**Essex Police have launched a 'Spot an officer on a bike' competition where members of the public can win one of five new mountain bikes. If you see an officer on a bike before August 31st, take a photo and send it in to be entered into a free prize draw on September 1st. Include your name, telephone number and address and details of where you spotted the officer and send it in to Essex Police either by email to [jenna.smith@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:jenna.smith@essex.pnn.police.uk) or by post to Jenna Smith, Press Office, Essex Police HQ, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 6DA.**



# Focussed policing reaps rewards

**Officers in Southend are celebrating a successful day of positive policing.**

On Friday, July 10, Operation Nadir involved officers from the Southend district, supported by colleagues from Mobile Support Division, taking part in various activities aimed at reducing crime, increasing detections and reassuring the public.

Seven search warrants were executed across the borough and 27 arrests were made. Officers were also involved in high visibility patrols of key local areas to offer public reassurance as well as adopting the '3VP' strategy - by being on the look out for vulnerable property, people and premises and issuing appropriate advice accordingly.

Traffic officers from the Mobile Support Division checked a total of 33 commercial vehicles and found 21 drivers had been driving beyond the

allowed number of hours. Seven prohibition notices were issued, one vehicle was seized and one had no insurance. Other road checks on the day led to 81 drivers being stopped for not wearing a seatbelt and 12 for mobile phone offences.



Chief Insp Glen Westley, who oversees policing of the Southend District, said: "Operation Nadir goes to show that pro-active focussed policing leads to impressive results. I am pleased with our achievements from the operation, whilst also being keen to ensure the good practice taken from the day will be implemented where possible into the day-to-day policing of this busy division."

Help us wipe out illegal graffiti with

## TALKlines

Graffiti tags are **not** art, **not** legal and **NOT WANTED!**

Please help us stop taggers ruining our streets by giving us 100% confidential information.

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111  
ST LUKE'S NPT 07974 148602

Call our  lines NOW



St Luke's  
Neighbourhood  
Policing Team



# Shop a Tagger

PCSO Jackie Jones from the Southchurch Neighbourhood Policing Team has come up with an innovative idea in an effort to combat graffiti tagging on her patch. This is to distribute A6 sized cards to local school students encouraging them to report the details of taggers whose work blights large areas of our borough.

Students are encouraged to either call the St Lukes NPT or make use of Crimestoppers. Southend CDRP has funded the printing of the cards, which were handed to pupils of the ward's secondary school, Cecil Jones College, on the last day of the school year so they can report tagging throughout the summer holidays.

# Tell us what you think!

We're always keen to receive your feedback, comments and ideas on 'Communicate' and the work of the Southend CDRP in general.

If you have a viewpoint you'd like to share with us, please contact either Julia Pack or Mick Holland via the contact numbers of page 2, via email to [Julia.pack@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Julia.pack@essex.pnn.police.uk) or [southendnhw@aol.com](mailto:southendnhw@aol.com) or by letter to Police Station, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-sea, SS2 6ES. Thank you!

# ...News in Brief...

## Watch out, Bogus Cops about!

Police in South East Essex are keen to warn residents after men pretending to be police officers have contacted local elderly people by phone.

Police in Castle Point received two separate reports on one evening in July from people reporting that their elderly parents, who live in the area, had received calls from men purporting to be police officers.

The bogus officers claimed that the elderly person had been victim of card cloning and stated that, as part of their investigation, they would need to visit them in order to collect their cards along with their PIN number. The bogus officers even suggested that the card and PIN could be left in the porch so they didn't need to disturb the resident when they collected them.

Fortunately, the two people targeted in July - a 75 year old woman from Canvey Island and an 81 year old man from Benfleet - were suspicious of their callers and refused to act on the bogus officer's request.

Sgt Brad Dickel of the Castle Point District said: "These men are preying on vulnerable members of our community in an effort to steal from them and we are keen to ensure that no-one falls foul to their callous scam.

"The two people who received calls last night were alert enough to refuse to hand over their card and PIN, but it is obviously a concern for us that some other residents may be taken in by their story and submit to the demands of the bogus officers. We're therefore keen to stress that genuine police officers will never under any circumstances ask you to disclose your PIN number to them."

Local Crime Reduction Officer Lorna Watson added: "Your PIN is unique and should never be disclosed to anyone, not even staff at your bank or building society. If you receive an unexpected call of any description, never discuss personal information before first confirming the caller's identity, even if they appear to know who you are.

"If you receive a call from a police officer, take an extension number and call them back so you can be sure they are who they say they are. The Essex Police non-emergency number is 0300 333 4444. If someone claims to be from another force, either look up their number to verify their claim or, if in doubt, call us."

If you feel that you may have been a victim of this type of crime, please report it to police straight away. If you have given out any personal bank or credit card details to somebody whose identity you're not sure of, report it to your bank or credit card company."

## Love reading but can't get to the library?

Southend Library offers a free home delivery service which offers books, spoken word stories, music CDs, DVDs, videos and lots more besides.



To find out more about this service, call Southend Library on 01702 534125 or visit [www.southend.gov.uk/library](http://www.southend.gov.uk/library).

## Take care of your cards

Police are urging people to be extra vigilant when using cash machines after illegal devices were discovered on cashpoints at banks in Rochford and Castle Point.



Police patrols have been stepped up and banks put on alert after five cash dispensers were tampered with over the past two weeks.

In three cases camera-enabled mobile phones were fixed to the machine to record pin numbers entered by unsuspecting members of the public. The devices were recovered by police and are now undergoing forensic examination.

Incidents were reported at Barclays' branches in Rochford, Rayleigh and Benfleet, at a branch of Abbey in Benfleet, and at Lloyds TSB, also in Benfleet.

Chief Inspector Andy Prophet, district commander for Rochford said: "We would ask everyone using cash machines, especially those located outside banks, to be vigilant when withdrawing cash.

"Be aware of anyone standing unusually close to you and check the machine for anything remotely suspicious. As well as the hidden mobile cameras crooks fit 'skimmer' devices over the card slot to read card numbers. If you are in any doubt about the security of the machine report it to the bank, and if you should discover a device, call police immediately."

# Giant Word Search!

See if you can solve our tricky puzzle and find the words and phrases, listed below, which all have some connection to Southend CDRP. Good luck!

P	T	I	N	U	Y	T	E	F	A	S	Y	T	I	N	U	M	M	O	C
O	R	S	O	I	N	T	S	P	A	U	M	E	R	O	E	Y	D	R	O
E	A	V	C	T	R	A	D	I	N	G	S	T	A	N	D	A	R	D	S
D	C	X	A	S	V	C	Y	T	E	L	N	T	M	E	S	T	V	R	W
S	E	N	M	T	F	O	F	G	I	C	R	V	P	A	A	M	B	U	V
T	O	U	A	H	R	Y	P	O	G	E	I	J	F	T	V	I	K	G	U
E	O	S	U	L	P	C	A	R	A	C	F	E	N	Y	S	B	E	A	Y
C	R	S	L	G	U	A	P	R	T	I	F	I	R	O	U	S	R	N	I
I	O	Y	A	R	F	B	S	I	N	L	S	I	K	U	E	V	E	D	F
V	D	U	B	F	X	O	M	T	C	O	R	B	R	M	P	I	C	A	L
R	T	V	R	N	E	S	M	A	D	P	D	S	O	T	G	F	I	L	A
E	A	S	A	M	U	R	W	C	A	I	E	H	N	R	O	R	V	C	G
S	M	E	Y	P	R	O	I	R	E	C	X	J	A	Z	P	S	R	O	P
N	L	N	P	T	S	M	T	N	P	E	Q	U	C	D	R	E	E	H	R
O	D	O	O	P	M	S	U	T	S	W	P	O	L	C	O	H	S	O	I
I	R	H	L	Y	A	B	T	S	F	O	M	G	X	E	B	S	G	L	N
T	W	R	E	M	A	P	E	U	A	M	U	I	H	S	A	M	N	T	C
U	D	I	S	T	R	H	N	R	L	P	F	T	O	P	T	R	I	E	F
C	O	U	P	B	T	W	S	T	A	L	N	D	H	C	I	K	D	A	U
E	M	L	C	U	D	U	A	E	W	C	I	M	S	E	O	P	N	M	S
S	B	F	O	S	L	F	I	R	S	K	E	C	B	L	N	T	E	O	P
O	H	S	G	C	O	P	M	A	R	O	B	P	N	E	A	D	F	R	T
R	N	K	A	L	E	R	F	C	D	L	I	S	I	U	R	L	F	D	M
P	R	F	T	M	V	X	L	Y	E	N	C	H	T	R	O	S	O	Y	H
N	E	I	G	H	B	O	U	R	H	O	O	D	W	A	T	C	H	O	F
W	N	R	O	C	D	P	R	A	T	U	A	L	C	P	D	S	T	I	L
O	P	E	A	L	M	W	S	M	A	O	R	T	S	K	C	I	U	V	S
R	S	T	R	W	C	N	O	I	P	R	C	D	R	P	A	A	O	I	R
C	S	A	D	L	I	Z	V	R	M	I	S	L	H	G	O	C	Y	R	A
K	E	D	C	I	V	P	L	P	A	R	T	N	E	R	S	H	I	P	W

POLICE  
 FIRE  
 AMBULANCE  
 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH  
 CDRP  
 PRIMARY CARE TRUST  
 COUNCIL  
 YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE  
 SMART  
 PROBATION

COMMUNITY SAFETY UNIT  
 TRADING STANDARDS  
 DRUG AND ALCOHOL TEAM  
 SOUTH ESSEX HOMES  
 VICTIM SUPPORT  
 CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE  
 SAVS  
 SAFER IN SOUTHEND  
 PARTNERSHIP

Answers will be printed in next issue of Communicate