



# CDRP Person of the Month

**Name:- Roger Robinson**

**Position:-** Anti-social Behaviour Partnership Officer in Southend Multi Agency Anti-Social Behaviour Response Team (SMAART)

**Responsibilities:-** I am the first point of contact for the public reporting nuisances and incidents of anti-social behaviour. As such, I give initial advice and briefly outline what action SMAART can take working together with other agencies. I try to be realistic with complainants in terms of what can be achieved and time-scales. The priority for SMAART is to tackle the serious and ongoing nuisances that are affecting peoples' lives.

**Activities to address crime and anti-social behaviour:-** Each case is different and nuisances affect people in different ways. We endeavour to do all we can in each case, giving personal attention and taking on board the needs of all parties involved. Our action can range from visits, letters, liaison with other agencies including police, working with landlords and tenants, mediation and, where necessary, enforcement action such as Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC's), Anti-social Behaviour Orders (ASBO's) and Injunctions.

**All About Roger:-** I was a police officer in Haringey, London for 30 years. It was an extremely busy and challenging area to work in. I was on a team for 20 years (yes just like The Bill) and for the last 10 years I



was a local Community Officer in Muswell Hill where local children knew me as Police-man Roger! I thought I would do something completely different when I retired from the police, but it seems that all those years and experience have not been in vain as I am still endeavouring to 'pour oil on trouble waters' albeit, mainly from the comfort of the SMAART office. I am pleased to be part of a team that is helping to make Southend a safer place to live, work and enjoy.

**Outside interests:-** Recently my wife and I have travelled quite extensively and have been fortunate enough to visit places such as Madagascar, Borneo, Sri Lanka, Costa Rica and The Gambia. They say that travel is good for the soul and it is quite humbling to see how little anti-social behaviour occurs in some of these countries when they have so few material possessions. We enjoy seeing natural beauty and wildlife. In complete contrast to these sedate interests, I am a big Laurel and Hardy fan and organise the very active local fan club. I also do talks and presentations in the local community talking about my comedy heroes.



**Contact details:-**

**SMAART office number 01702 423504**

**E-Mail:- [rogerrobinson@southend.gov.uk](mailto:rogerrobinson@southend.gov.uk)**

## Neighbourhood Policing Teams

|                        |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Southend Central –     | 07817 968114                    |
| Southend High Street – | 07791 315961 or<br>07791 421302 |
| Southend Seafront –    | 01702 613449                    |
| Chalkwell Marine –     | 07866 545291                    |
| Blenheim –             | 07817 968093                    |
| Eastwood –             | 07816 661693                    |
| Shoebury –             | 07710 086590                    |
| Southchurch –          | 07976 325346                    |

## New e-mail service

The council have established a dedicated e-mail address for reporting dumped rubbish and graffiti. Simply send details of offences to [doete@southend.gov.uk](mailto:doete@southend.gov.uk) or call 01702 215000

## Useful numbers

### CDRP Manager

Simon Ford — 01702 215185

### Crime Reduction Officer

Lorna Watson — 01702 423187

### Neighbourhood Watch Administrator

Mick Holland — 01702 464199

### Media & Communications Co-ordinator

Julia Pack — 01702 423138

**Large print versions of Communicate can be produced upon request**

# Beating the Beaters

By Jean Fox,  
IDVA

As Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA), my role is to support victims of abuse in Southend. I deal with adult victims, deemed by police to be very high risk, with the prospect of a court case in the future.

The IDVA service began in 2005 due to Government concerns for the large number of both retracted statements and subsequent repeat victims. There was, and still is, a reluctance to attend court. Obviously, there are a myriad of quite understandable reasons why a victim fails to support a prosecution but certainly one of them is that they feel unsupported. The length of time between the initial incident and the case led to an unacceptable drop-out rate. The IDVA service was created to bridge the gap.

Alongside this service, Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) are being held. Complementing this are the Specialist Domestic Violence Courts (SDVC) which cluster domestic violence cases with specialist prosecutors, trained magistrates and IDVAs present, supporting victims through the process.

How we tackle each case is as follows; we receive referrals through the police then contact the client explaining the service we offer and establishing the level of intervention required.

We carry out a risk assessment and implement any necessary safety plans. We then establish our key priorities and set an action plan, engaging all relevant agencies in the process before supporting the victim through the court if applicable. Throughout the process, the victim is regularly contacted and the records constantly updated. At the end, each case is reviewed.

This is a snapshot of the processes undertaken to ensure the very best possible service to Southend's abuse victims.

## ...F.A.Q...

### What do I do about Lottery Scams?

We frequently receive reports that residents have received letters or e-mails from foreign lotteries, stating that the recipient has won an enormous sum of money and all that is required is for the recipient to furnish bank account details in order for the prize to be released.

Needless to say, such communications are scams designed to steal personal identity details, to access bank accounts and steal money from accounts. Recipients of such correspondence are strongly advised **not** to divulge any information but to notify Consumer Direct on 0845 4050406

### Do Essex Police endorse magazines?

Over recent months, we have heard from numerous small local businesses who have been contacted by a company claiming to produce a magazine that is endorsed by Essex Police. The magazine name is ever-changing, but offices tend to be based in the Liverpool area (0151 telephone prefix).

We would advise all local business owners that Essex Police do not endorse any external magazines. Sometimes the companies have been known to claim that their magazines are sent to all police stations and will be read by all local officers – this too is untrue. Essex Police produces its own promotional material.

No matter how believable a salesperson's claims may sound or how good value the 'buy now' price may be, our advice to you is never pay up front and always take the time to do some research to check they are telling the truth. If they are bona fide, they will not mind waiting for your decision.



## Lorna Watson says...

At this time of year, most of us spend longer outside in the garden or enjoying trips to the beach or park.

But while we're relaxing, the opportunist thief can be prowling around looking for the invitation of that window or door we've left open to let the air in. It will let him in too!

So, even if you're only popping out for a short time, close and lock all external doors and windows. And if you are only in the garden, make sure all the doors and windows on the opposite side of the house are also locked.

**Have a lovely, safe summer.**

# What a result!

Southend's Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership is celebrating success after reducing crime by 20% over the past three years.

The borough was set a target by the Government Office for the East of England (GoEast) back in 2004, to reduce crime by 18.5% by the end of March 2008.

Not only did we reach that figure, we beat it by a further 1.5%. In real terms, that means that there have been thousands fewer victims of crime over the past three years than there had been previously, which is great news for the people of Southend.

Congratulations are therefore due to all partner members, organisations and staff who have been responsible for community safety work over the last three years, and who have contributed to this success. The success is reflective of the hard work and attitude of many individuals in Southend who are passionate about Southend and want to keep the Borough safe. The results show that by sharing the responsibility and adopting the partnership approach – significant impacts can be made against crime and disorder.

The highlights of these results include;

|                                            |            |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Theft of Motor Vehicle reduced by</b>   | <b>36%</b> |
| <b>Theft from Motor Vehicle reduced by</b> | <b>37%</b> |
| <b>Vehicle Interference reduced by</b>     | <b>50%</b> |
| <b>Domestic Burglary reduced by</b>        | <b>22%</b> |
| <b>Theft from Person reduced by</b>        | <b>43%</b> |
| <b>Criminal Damage reduced by</b>          | <b>14%</b> |
| <b>Woundings reduced by</b>                | <b>20%</b> |
| <b>Robbery reduced by</b>                  | <b>48%</b> |

Key to success has been the approach and drive of our multi agency action groups that sit under the CDRP umbrella. These include:

## Domestic Abuse

The Domestic Abuse Group has driven forward a number of key actions that has improved the lives of those in the Borough that are victims of this crime.

Recent initiatives include the introduction of an Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA) service in the Borough (supporting the most high risks victims of domestic abuse), training for a wide range of staff on MARAC (multi agency risk assessment conference), and the establishment of a Sanctuary Scheme in Southend (enhancing the security of high risk victims in their own home).

## ***By Simon Ford, CDRP Manager***

### Night Time Economy Group

Since forming 18 months ago the group – which consists of police, council, voluntary organisations and the licensing trade – has gone from strength to strength. Leading on reducing violence and criminal damage in the town centre, the group has introduced a safe route through the High St, been responsible for the introduction of mobile toilets, which has had a significant impact on damage to commercial buildings in town, and also enhanced the services of the SOS Bus.

Violent crime has fallen in the town centre by 8%



### Southend Prolific and Priority Offender Group (PPO)

A multi agency group focused on reducing the offending of both young and adult perpetrators. Targeting the Borough's most prolific offenders, the group's aim is to stop their offending through catch and convict, prevent and deter and resettle and rehabilitate interventions.

Prolific offenders are generally those that have a drink or drug dependency issue, and can often be responsible for sudden peaks in acquisitive crime types (burglary, vehicle crime and robbery / theft). The success of this team's work is evident in the reduction of such crimes, as previously listed.

## **IN BRIEF...NEWS IN BRIEF...NEWS IN B**

### **Success for Neighbourhood Watch**

Thanks to information received from one of the Westcliff Neighbourhood Watch schemes, Trading Standards Officers were recently involved in the arrest of a person hawking counterfeit DVDs.