CITY & COUNTY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (LEICESTER & LEICESTERSHIRE)

SAVE THE DATE! - THURSDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2017 - 7.30PM

CITY & COUNTY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEMBERS YEARLY MEETING

ST THOMAS MORE CHURCH HALL

Have you visited City and County Neighbourhood Watch (Leicester & Leicestershire) Website recently?

www.neighbourhoodwatchleicester.net

FACEBOOK GROUPS

Why not consider joining a Facebook Group for your Area. You will then be able to comment and discuss issues with others in your area, on topics that are of interest to you.

Blaby District: https://www.facebook.com/groups/BlabyNeighbourhoodWatchCCNWA/
Charnwood Borough: https://www.facebook.com/groups/CharnwoodNeighbourhoodWatchCCNWA/
Harborough District: https://www.facebook.com/groups/HarboroughNeighbourhoodWatchCCNWA/
Hinckley & Bosworth Borough: https://www.facebook.com/groups/HinckleyBosworthNeighbourhoodWatch/
Leicester City: https://www.facebook.com/groups/LeicesterNeighbourhoodWatchCCNWA/
Leicestershire: https://www.facebook.com/groups/LeicestershireNeighbourhoodWatchCCNWA/
Melton Borough: https://www.facebook.com/groups/MeltonNeighbourhoodWatchCCNWA/
North West Leicestershire District: https://www.facebook.com/groups/NorthWestLeicsNeighbourhoodWatch/
Oadby & Wigston Borough: https://www.facebook.com/groups/OadbyWigstonNeighbourhoodWatch/

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

Flooding technology highly commended at awards
A real-time flood project to support emergency responders was a finalist at Loughborough University’s Enterprise Awards last night (Wednesday 17 May, 2017).

The project, which was nominated for the category of ‘developing innovative technologies to meet global challenges’, was highly commended for devising techniques for high-resolution urban flood nowcasting - a technology for predicting floods up to 48 hours away.

The system funded by Natural Environment Research Council, uses live visualisation tools for emergency services to plan routes that avoid flooded areas, or to strategically place their equipment.

Partners including Leicester City Council and Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Prepared – the Local Resilience Forum, as well as Atkins Global; Cabinet Office; Department for Communities and Local Government; Environment Agency; the Met Office; and Transport Scotland, have tested the systems effectiveness.

Leicestershire Police’s Chief Constable, Simon Cole, Chair of LLR Prepared, said: “For Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland flooding is a key risk and it is really important that we have systems and technologies in place to deal with this risk.

“It has been a pleasure to work with Loughborough University on this project. For me the ultimate test is that the system has been proven by those who deal with flooding and they thought the system was useful. We can now put this into practice to help decision making for real time flooding.

“I am really proud the project has been highly commended at the Enterprise Awards and would like to thank everyone involved.”

The awards form part of the week-long business continuity awareness campaign to encourage businesses to maximise their cyber resilience, which is being driven by LLR Prepared alongside Nottinghamshire’s Local Resilience Forum, Derbyshire Prepared and the East Midlands Chamber of Commerce. To find out more visit www.llrprepared.org.uk .

You can find out more about the flood risk project and the Enterprise Awards by visiting http://www.lboro.ac.uk/enterprise/enterprise-awards/one-to-watch/flood-risks/ .

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

Four officers awarded their dog handling licence

L to R Top; Jennie and Quantum, James and Floyd, L to R Bottom; Lucy and Harper, Aran and Hope
Four newly licensed Police Dog Handlers and their Police Dogs are patrolling the streets after successfully passing a thirteen week Initial Dog Handlers Course.

The officers who all work for the East Midlands Operational Support Service (EMOpSS) will be joining their police colleagues across Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire – the four forces that make up EMOpSS.

To become a police dog handler officers need to go through a rigorous selection process and, if successful, they secure a place on a thirteen week Initial Dog Handlers Course.

At the end of the course, the officers were put through their paces by an independent assessor - John Best from the Police Dog Training School in Surrey who has forty years’ experience of working with police dogs. He came to assess the officers and their dogs at the end of the thirteen week course. Each handler and their dog is tested as a team on tracking (for people) building searches, obedience, agility, chasing and detaining suspects and property searches for discarded items. John’s endorsement means the teams meet the national standards for safety, efficiency and control which is a high accolade.

The assessments took place in the first week of May and all four officers and their dogs passed with flying colours.

They are;

Pc Lucy Sculthorpe (Northamptonshire officer) and fifteen month old PD Harper a German Shepherd
Pc James Coupland (Nottinghamshire officer) and two year old PD Floyd a black German Shepherd
Pc Aran Gibbs (Leicestershire Officer) and fifteen month old PD Hope a sable European Shepherd
Pc Jennie Ellse (Nottinghamshire officer) and eighteen month old PD Quantum a black German Shepherd

Quantum was donated to EMOpSS by South Yorkshire Police following the tragic death in service of PD Rebus almost one year ago. Harper and Hope are sisters.

Inspector Annie Reavley from EMOpSS Dog Unit said: “I am incredibly proud of our four new dog handlers, each one of them has shown great aptitude and commitment and worked really hard throughout the course. They all deserved to pass and I know, now that they have their license, they are really looking forward to getting out on patrol. It is great to see officers who have come with a variety of different policing backgrounds and experience and they will all be an asset to an already great team of dog handlers.”

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

Meet one of our four new dog handlers
Aran Gibbs joined Leicestershire Police ten years ago in 2007. He was a response officer at Beaumont Leys and worked on the Neighbourhood Action Team (NAT) before returning to response policing.

Aran only joined the police to become a dog handler. He had a near miss in 2013 when he was next in line for a position in the selection process narrowly missing a place on the Initial Dog Handlers Course before all the austerity cuts. He’s waited patiently for another opportunity which finally came in 2016 when this time he was successful in securing a place on the thirteen week course.

Aran is working with Police Dog Hope - a fifteen month old sable European Shepherd. He said; “I have got my work cut out with Hope. She is aggressive and very powerful. She was such a handful in her early stages that she was taken off the puppy walker because she kept biting them. She had to go to a dog handler from a very young age. She weighs five stone and a bit, which for a bitch is as big as any male dog on the section, so she is very strong and she really doesn’t like other dogs.

“I thought I knew a lot about dog handling but having done the course I realise that the more I have learnt, the more there is out there to learn”

“I am a single dad of two young children so it is a massive commitment and it needs good planning to juggle both, it’s like planning a military operation every day, but we are doing well at working it out. I live on a farm so there is plenty of space for Hope to exercise which also means I can do plenty of training with her. I have got a very special bond with her, which took serious commitment to build spending hours and days sitting, walking, playing and just being around her. She has changed immensely since week one of the course, she certainly has her own mind and it can be challenging at times but I am amazed at how much she has grown into a police dog and matured together as a team to achieve the high standard expected. People see the police dog s rock up to jobs and take for granted or do not realise the amount of time, effort, stress and love that has gone into building such a team. We were doing a search of a building the other day and she was up on her hind legs opening all the doors looking for the suspect, she found him of course!”

Independent assessor John Best from the Police Dog Training School in Surrey has forty years’ experience of working with police dogs. He came to assess the officers and their dogs at the end of the thirteen week course and Aran and Hope passed with flying colours. They are tested as a team on tracking (for people) building searches, obedience, agility, chasing and detaining suspects and property searches for discarded items. John was involved in the breading and initial training of Hope so the pressure to achieve was upped a notch.

Aran continued; “While we were on the course we were walking 18 to 20 miles on some days. When I was on response I was doing 5000 steps a day on my fit bit, however whilst on the course I was doing 23,000 steps a day! I would definitely recommend being a dog handler but you have to put a lot of time into it, you have to be up
early every morning for walks, even if you’ve had a late night the night before, and they need walking three times a day even on Christmas Day or your Birthday but I love it and my kids love Hope too they know she’s a working dog and not a pet but they are used to being around dogs as I had a Boxer for 16 years. I have definitely got the best job in the force.”

Hope is sister to another police dog, Harper, who passed the course at the same time. They also have another sister, Hero, and a brother, Hector, who are also police dogs in Beds/Cambs and Herts.

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

Leicestershire Police supports national campaign to remember fallen officers

Artists impression of the memorial

Issued on 17/5/17 at 6:00 a.m.

Eight weeks on from the terrorist attack in London which saw the murder of PC Keith Palmer, Leicestershire Police is supporting a major campaign to raise funds to build a new police memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) in Staffordshire.

The memorial will be inscribed with the names of over 1,400 officers and staff from police forces across the country who died from injuries they sustained carrying out their lawful duties.

Chair of the UK Police Memorial Trust, Sir Hugh Orde said: “Eight weeks ago a vicious and completely unprovoked attack occurred in our capital city which saw the murder of PC Keith Palmer and four other innocent members of the public.

“PC Palmer’s death has put greater emphasis on the need to create a place where the nation can honour and commemorate our police service and where family, friends and colleagues of those killed on duty can go to carry out personal acts of remembrance.

“The NMA is the place where the nation can go to remember our services and the men and women who have been killed in the course of their duty for their country.

“We need to establish a fitting memorial that recognises the vital contribution that policing makes to our society and acknowledges the courage and sacrifice made by police officers and police staff who have paid the ultimate price. That tribute must become part of the fabric of our national life.”

Chief Constable Simon Cole of Leicestershire Police said: “This is our opportunity to thank the men and women who stand on the front line for us day after day and do so with the utmost professionalism and bravery. We all owe them a huge debt of gratitude.
“The memorial will give people a place to visit to remember the men and women who have lost their lives serving our communities.”

Lord Willy Bach, Leicestershire’s Police and Crime Commissioner, said: “Every time police officers go to work they put their own safety on the line to keep the rest of us safe. All too often we simply take their courage and selflessness for granted. I think it's time to give something back. If we all do our bit to help raise the necessary funds then this wonderful idea will become a reality and I personally am both pleased and proud to support this campaign.”

Chief Superintendent Kerry Smith, Chair of the Leicestershire Superintendent’s Association said: “We fully support the campaign to raise funds to build a UK Police Memorial and provide a remembrance site for all to pay their respects to colleagues who have given the ultimate sacrifice.”

Chris Hanrahan, UNISON Branch Secretary, said: “UNISON encourages members to donate whatever they can to support this worthy cause. It is important that the service of which we are all proud has a permanent memorial to our fallen colleagues.”

The UK Police Memorial will see:

- a physical memorial established, set in a beautiful landscaped garden, inscribed with the names of over 1,400 police officers and staff who have died from injuries they sustained whilst carrying out their lawful duties.
- The first memorial in the world to merge a physical and digital presence, that tells the story of policing and those behind the badge who have paid with their lives.
- a programme developed for schools and colleges to inform pupils and students about the history of our police service and the part it plays in today’s society.
- a memorial that aims to foster a greater understanding and reconnection with the public and to bring back a sense of pride and value once more in UK policing.
- a memorial where the names of officers and staff who may be killed on duty in future years can be added and remembered.
- the establishment of a Living Memorial fund that can support the families of officers and staff killed on duty in the future.

Tony Ludlam, chairman of the Leicestershire branch of the National Association of Retired Police Officers (NARPO) said: “We are pleased to be one of the first to contribute to the fund on behalf of our members living across the UK.”

Tiff Lynch, Chair of the Leicestershire Police Federation, said: “As police officers we very rarely dwell on the worst case scenario – that one day we may not return home from work to our loved ones. But the stark reality is, this is a possibility. We all signed up to protect others, to run towards the danger when others run away.

“I believe the new memorial is vitally important. It will provide a place of reflection to remember all those who have been killed in the line of duty - those who died ‘just doing their job’.”

Leicestershire Police Federation has already donated £1,800 towards the new memorial - roughly £1 for every Leicestershire officer.

Further information about the memorial, how to make a donation or take part in fundraising activity can be found at the UK Police Memorial website www.ukpolicememorial.org. Anyone making a donation of more than £20 will receive a black and white chequered wristband inscribed with the words ‘courage and sacrifice’.

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

Scheme will identify risks for vulnerable adults

Issued on 16/5/17 at 3:59 p.m.
Leicestershire Police is marking Dementia Awareness Week by signing up to a national scheme to help to speed up the ways vulnerable people can be traced if they go missing.

Called the Herbert Protocol, the scheme encourages the person who has dementia, their family, other carers or professionals to provide vital information using a form that can be downloaded from the Leicestershire Police website. The form should only be provided to the police only if they report the person missing and the information will be kept securely by the force’s partner agencies.

Detective Inspector Kevin Wright and Gina Jakymiw-Jackson, Co-ordination and Referral Officer with the Adult Referral Team will be at the ‘WOTSPACE’ at Highcross Shopping Centre in Leicester on Wednesday 17 May to hand out copies of the form and encourage anybody caring for somebody with dementia to complete it.

DI Wright said: “Having somebody you love and care for go missing can be very frightening, particularly if they are vulnerable. This form will, hopefully, help relatives and carers to identify any risks in advance. The information provided will also help us to identify any dangers the person could face while they are missing and could include a photograph, mobile number, any medications needed as well as places the person at risk has previously visited.

“Together with our partner agencies, we will be able to use the information provided to us to help speed up the processes we have to trace the missing person.”

The Herbert Protocol is named after war veteran George Herbert who went missing while on his way to his childhood home and died.

ACTION FRAUD

Ransomware Cyber Attack 15/05/2017

Following the ransomware cyber attack on Friday 12 May which affected the NHS and is believed to have affected other organisations globally, the City of London Police’s National Fraud Intelligence Bureau has issued an alert urging both individuals and businesses to follow protection advice immediately and in the coming days.

Ransomware is a form of malicious software (Malware) that enables cyber criminals to remotely lock down files on your computer or mobile device. Criminals will use ransomware to extort money from you (a ransom), before they restore access to your files. There are many ways that ransomware can infect your device, whether it be a link to a malicious website in an unsolicited email, or through a security vulnerability in a piece of software you use.

Key Protect messages for businesses to protect themselves from ransomware:

- Install system and application updates on all devices as soon as they become available.
- Install anti-virus software on all devices and keep it updated.
- Create regular backups of your important files to a device that isn’t left connected to your network as any malware infection could spread to that too.

The National Cyber Security Centre’s technical guidance includes specific software patches to use that will prevent uninfected computers on your network from becoming infected with the “WannaCry” Ransomware: https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/ransomware-latest-ncsc-guidance

For additional in-depth technical guidance on how to protect your organisation from ransomware, details can be found here: https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/protecting-your-organisation-ransomware

Key Protect advice for individuals:

- Install system and application updates on all devices as soon as they become available.
- Install anti-virus software on all devices and keep it updated.
- Create regular backups of your important files to a device (such as an external hard drive or memory stick) that isn't left connected to your computer as any malware infection could spread to that too.
- Only install apps from official app stores, such as Google’s Play Store, or Apple’s App Store as they offer better levels of protection than some 3rd party stores. Jailbreaking, rooting, or disabling any of the default security features of your device will make it more susceptible to malware infections.

**Phishing/smishing**
Fraudsters may exploit this high profile incident and use it as part of phishing/smishing campaigns. We urge people to be cautious if they receive any unsolicited communications from the NHS. The protect advice for that is the following:

- An email address can be spoofed. Don't open attachments or click on the links within any unsolicited emails you receive, and never respond to emails that ask for your personal or financial details.
- The sender’s name and number in a text message can be spoofed, so even if the message appears to be from an organisation you know of, you should still exercise caution, particularly if the texts are asking you to click on a link or call a number.

Don't disclose your personal or financial details during a cold call, and remember that the police and banks will never ring you and ask you to verify your PIN, withdraw your cash, or transfer your money to another “safe” account.

If you have been a victim of fraud or cyber crime, please report it to Action Fraud at [http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/)

**LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE**

**CRIME PREVENTION**

**PERSONAL SAFETY**

. Stalking

Most people think that stalkers only follow celebrities, but these incidents make up a small number of cases. About 40% of victims are stalked by people who they used to be in a relationship with, and another third are victims to people they already know.

**What is stalking?**

Stalking is classed as any behaviour from another person which is persistent, unwanted and causes you any kind of fear or anxiety. It covers a wide range of activities, including unwanted or malicious communication, damaging property, assault or even simply sending flowers or gifts which are unwanted.

Stalking can take place at home, online, at work or on a night out. Stalkers often use multiple methods of harassing their victims, but any such behaviour is illegal.

**Who is a stalker?**

Most people are stalked by people that they know. However, just because you know the person stalking you, that doesn’t make it right – it is still a crime.

**Who can be a victim?**
Anyone can become a victim of stalking. Statistics show that victims can be of any age, of any gender, and of any background.

**How do I know that I am being stalked?**

If you can answer yes to more than one of the following questions, you may be a victim of stalking:

- Are you very frightened?
- Is there a history of abuse and/or harassment?
- Has the stalker ever damaged your property?
- Does the stalker turn up at your home, workplace or any other location to see you uninvited more than three times per week?
- Does the stalker follow you or wait for you?
- Has the stalker made any threats of violence?
- Does the stalker also harass anyone else that you know?

**Who should I contact if I think I’m being stalked?**

**Call 101 and to report it to us.** It is important to gather as much evidence of what is taking place as possible, including audio recordings, videos and pictures, as well as any text messages, emails or letters that you have received from the stalker.

The best way to collect all the evidence is to create a log of all your interactions with the stalker, including the date, time, location and what happened – the more detail that you include, the more that the police have to work with.

However, it is very important to you are careful when collecting video or photo evidence against a stalker, since it is possible that they could complain to the police that you are harassing them by making unwanted recordings.

If you are unsure, talk to the police before collecting this type of evidence.

**National Stalking Helpline**

The National Stalking Helpline has more information about collecting evidence and how to keep a log, visit [www.stalkinghelpline.org/creating-a-log](http://www.stalkinghelpline.org/creating-a-log)

Remember – the sooner you report your stalker to the police, the sooner we can do something about it.

**Put a STOP to stalking**

- **Say no** – Tell the person once and you do not want any further contact with them, and then do not respond any more
- **Take notes** – Keep a log and save evidence like text messages, emails and screenshots of online activity
- **Options** – call the National Stalking Helpline or 101 to discuss your options
- **Police** – Stalking is illegal, and the police will take action

**Where else can I find support?**

**National Stalking Helpline**

**Phn:** 0808 802 0300
**Web:** [www.stalkinghelpline.org](http://www.stalkinghelpline.org)

**Victim First**
LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

POLICE
SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

NORTH WEST LEICESTER NPA

Valley

The Valley neighbourhood beat incorporates the villages of Kegworth, Long Whatton, Diseworth, Belton, Osgathorpe, Swannington, Breedon on the Hill and Castle Donnington and the Donington Park Race Circuit. These towns and villages have a number of shops, pubs, schools and colleges.

It is a large neighbourhood area covering almost half of the local policing area and is mainly rural with farms, shops and schools spread across the area. The M1 motorway and A42 passes through the centre of the area allowing to excellent transport links and has attracted a number of large businesses to the area including the TNT Eurohub and Enstone Quarries at Breedon.

Each dedicated neighbourhood team is supported by the Special Constabulary.

Your dedicated neighbourhood team

Sgt Dave Wadsworth

Collar number: 2172

I started work on this beat team in November 2015, prior to that I worked on the Bardon Beat as a Designated Neighbourhood Officer where I developed my skills and contacts in working with partners to solve local problems. Prior to this, I worked in Leicester as a Temporary Sergeant on a Responsive Policing team.

I joined Leicestershire Police in 2006 and have worked in a variety of roles since, including pro-active policing, response policing and more recently I helped set up and develop the Force Mental Health Triage car.

I look forward to working with the rest of the team, to tackle issues which matter most to people and work together with our partners to solve problems.

- Send an email to your neighbourhood team
- Leave a voicemail for Sgt Dave Wadsworth by calling 101 and follow the instructions to leave a message for an officer. When prompted, key in the identification number 2172.
PC Jason Underwood

Collar number: 1760

I joined Leicestershire Police in 1998 starting my police career at Braunstone where I worked for over four years before moving to the North Area. I took up the post of Beat Officer for Kegworth in 2007 and I have remained part of the Safer Neighbourhood Team for the Valley following the policing area changes. I thoroughly enjoy my role working with the other members of the team and our partners agencies, problem solving issues that are presented to us during our ongoing engagement and consultation with the communities we police.

- Send an email to your neighbourhood team
- Leave a voicemail for PC Jason Underwood by calling 101 and follow the instructions to leave a message for an officer. When prompted, key in the identification number 1760.

PC Louise Gravenall

Collar number: 4118

I have been employed by Leicestershire Police as a police officer since 1993. During that time I have worked at both city and rural locations throughout the force area. I have also worked as a domestic violence officer at Loughborough Police Station. I am also currently an equality support worker within the force which involves me supporting colleagues.

In my previous roles I have worked closely with partner agencies. I aim to continue this work in order to help resolve issues within the Valley Beat area.

My previous role was as a member of the beat team for Coalville Town centre where I worked closely with partner agencies to resolve local issues.

I shall continue to consult with members of the community in an aim to resolve local issues where I can.

Should you have any concerns with regard to issues on the beat then please feel free to come and speak to me.

- Send an email to your neighbourhood team
- Leave a voicemail for PC Louise Gravenall by calling 101 and follow the instructions to leave a message for an officer. When prompted, key in the identification number 4118.
PCSO Kevin Bradley

Collar number: 6867

I am Kevin Bradley and have been the Police Community Support Officer for Castle Donington since May 2013.

I believe the success of Neighbourhood Policing requires effective engagement and communication, which in turn will build confidence and feelings of security within the community. Working with respect, understanding and consideration to the structure of the neighbourhood community, as part of the Neighbourhood Team we aim to help tackle anti-social behaviour and minimise its impact on the lives of those effected.

I feel it is important to involve other agencies to help improve and re-generate the community, improve living standards and install confidence within a safe neighbourhood.

- Send an email to your neighbourhood team
- Leave a voicemail for PCSO Kevin Bradley by calling 101 and follow the instructions to leave a message for an officer. When prompted, key in the identification number 6867.

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PCSO Nicola Stanhope

Collar number: 6178

I joined Leicestershire Police as a PCSO back in 2008, since then I have been based in Kegworth as part of the Valley Safer Neighbourhood Beat Team. I have recently become the Rural SPOC (single point of contact) on the beat with the intention of reducing rural crime, increasing crime awareness and promoting crime prevention in the rural and farming communities. Along with this, I will be tackling anti-social behaviour, addressing any local concerns and be a visible Police presence.

- Send an email to your neighbourhood team
- Leave a voicemail for PCSO Nicola Stanhope by calling 101 and follow the instructions to leave a message for an officer. When prompted, key in the identification number 6178.