

March 2022

## Community Engagements and Activities



On February 10th Billericay and Wickford Community Policing Team worked alongside the RSPCA in Crays Hill. A number of ponies and donkeys were seized under the Animal Welfare Act following calls from the public regarding health concerns and conditions they were kept in.

The RSPCA investigate and prosecute animal cruelty reported to them by members of the public who are concerned about the welfare of animals. They are always grateful for the help the public provide, taking the time to call them is an act of love and kindness without the help of the public they would not be able to get justice for the animals.

The RSPCA work alongside the Police who have the power

to enter properties and land with a warrant to seize animals who have been neglected and or abused. The RSPCA then prepare a case file against the owners and if successful they will be prosecuted. Recently figures show the RSPCA have had over 1400 convictions of Animal Cruelty which is 93% of their case load. If you have any concerns for an animal please contact them via their Website [www.rspca.org.uk](http://www.rspca.org.uk).

PCSO Edwards, PCSO Grant and PCSO Webster from the Wickford and Billericay community policing team had the pleasure of attending the new Wickford library for the national 'Love your library day'. Joining in the event were our colleagues from the local fire station. PCSO Webster also had a great time at Billericay Library.

Pictured are members from both teams and potential future new recruits, twins, Ethan and Elsie aged 3.



**Domestic abuse is all about control. If you notice that someone seems to be controlled in all areas of their life, it could be a sign they are being abused.**

**SETDAB.org**

Now there's a quick online alternative to calling 101 or visiting a police station:  
**DIGITAL 101**



Do it online at:  
[essex.police.uk](http://essex.police.uk)

**IN AN EMERGENCY  
ALWAYS CALL 999**



A/Ps Seeley, Pc Weston, PCSO Adams and PCSO Williamson from Pitsea Community Policing Team were asked to attend the 1st Pitsea & Vange Scout Group situated in Bardfield to show them some of the techniques used to detain perpetrators and self-defence moves. Everyone had great time, a big thank you for the invitation.

As the warmer months and longer nights approach it is anticipated that reports of Anti-Social Behaviour will start to climb. In response, Basildon Police are running several operations across the district to prevent and deter Crime. They will be working closely with key partners which include local schools, youth intervention teams, the fire brigade and the volunteer sector.

Anti-Social Behaviour has a negative impact on communities especially the vulnerable who often don't report this type of crime for fear of reprisal or wasting Police time. I would like to assure our communities that Anti Social Behaviour will not be tolerated, and we will investigate and where possible seek the assistance of Schools to help identify perpetrators.

To make ourselves more accessible to the public we organise Coffee with Cops across the district this enables you the community to tell us a about your issues or concerns or maybe you know someone who is suffering from Anti Social Behaviour and wont contact us. We post all our events and locations on our Facebook page, so keep a keen eye out for times and dates.



## CHARITY CORNER



On the 14<sup>th</sup> February Officers and staff created their own take on the 'British bake-off ' at Basildon police station all in aid of the fantastic South Essex Wildlife Hospital (SEWH) located in nearby Orsett.

They organised this in their own time, everyone was asked to bake a cake which was sold at the police station for a charitable donation to the Wildlife Hospital. During our duties, we often take wildlife to the hospital as a result of cruelty and criminal activity this was our chance to give something back.

PCSO Edwards and PCSO Grant from Wickford & Billericay Community Policing Team had the pleasure of handing Sue Schwar founder of the Hospital a cheque for £260.00.

To make a donation please go to their website [www.southessexwildlife.org](http://www.southessexwildlife.org)

Basildon and Laindon Community Policing Team held a Coffee with Cops at St Nicholas Church Laindon on Sunday 13th March. PCSO Brady and PCSO Nice have been working alongside Fr. Andrei Petrine, Susan Shadrake who is the Deanery and Tracy Wilkinson Community Champion from Tesco Mayflower Retail Park, they have been helping raise awareness of the churches History and recruit volunteers to help with the



maintenance of the church yard. In recent months the church has suffered vandalism to several benches, which deeply saddens all those involved in the church's restoration and the struggle to keep the church in good order for everyone to enjoy for years to come. To make a donation go to [www.stnicholaslaindon.org](http://www.stnicholaslaindon.org)

## What is Hate Crime..?

### Hate crimes and hate incidents

In most crimes it is something the victim has in their possession or control that motivates the offender to commit the crime. With hate crime it is 'who' the victim is, or 'what' the victim appears to be that motivates the offender to commit the crime.

A hate crime is defined as 'Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person's race or perceived race; religion or perceived religion; sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation; disability or perceived disability and any crime motivated by hostility or prejudice against a person who is transgender or perceived to be transgender.'

A hate incident is any incident which the victim, or anyone else, thinks is based on someone's prejudice towards them because of their race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or because they are transgender.

Not all hate incidents will amount to criminal offences, but it is equally important that these are reported and recorded by the police.

Evidence of the hate element is not a requirement. You do not need to personally perceive the incident to be hate related. It would be enough if another person, a witness or even a police officer thought that the incident was hate related.

### Types of hate crime

#### Physical assault

Physical assault of any kind is an offence. If you've been a victim of physical assault you should report it. Depending on the level of the violence used, a perpetrator may be charged with common assault, actual bodily harm or grievous bodily harm.

#### Verbal abuse

Verbal abuse, threats or name-calling can be a common and

extremely unpleasant experience for minority groups.

Victims of verbal abuse are often unclear whether an offence has been committed or believe there is little they can do. However, there are laws in place to protect you from verbal abuse.

If you've been the victim of verbal abuse, talk to the police or one of our partner organisations about what has happened. You'll find a list of them on our [How to report hate crime](#) page visit [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk)

Even if you don't know who verbally abused you, the infor-



mation could still help us to improve how we police the area where the abuse took place.

#### Incitement to hatred

The offence of incitement to hatred occurs when someone acts in a way that is threatening and intended to stir up hatred. That could be in words, pictures, videos, music, and includes information posted on websites.

Hate content may include:

- messages calling for violence against a specific person or group
- web pages that show pictures, videos or descriptions of violence against anyone due to their perceived differences
- chat forums where people ask other people to commit hate crimes against a specific person or group

## Success Stories

On January 22nd Wickford and Billericay Community Policing Team executed a warrant in Market Avenue, Wickford. One male was arrested and held in custody for questioning in relation to possession with intent to supply cannabis. The investigation is still ongoing, if you have any information that you would like to share with us about this crime, please contact us anonymously on 101 or Crime Stoppers on 0800 111 555.



but we hope to secure a charge soon.

On February 19<sup>th</sup> Billericay and Wickford CPT and Basildon Town Team executed two warrants in Billericay Under The Misuse of Drugs Act. The warrants were in Radford Court and Mountnessing Road.



The investigation is still ongoing, if you have any information please contact us anonymously on 101 or Crime Stoppers on 0800 111 555.

On January 25th Specialist Op Raptor drug officers have secured more than five years in jail for a drill artist who used his music to brag about drug dealing in Basildon.



He sold crack cocaine and heroin.

In his music videos, he wears a mask or balaclava and boasts about making large sums of money by getting young people to sell drugs for him.

His songs also express fears of being followed by the police while the lyrics also state: "Raptor's got me on edge."

A number of his music videos were used in evidence which was submitted to the Crown Prosecution Service.

On January 30th while officers were on foot patrol in Pitsea a male juvenile was stopped and searched and subsequently arrested for being in possession of class B drugs. While he was in police custody a house search was conducted, during the search an adult male was also arrested for possession with intent to supply class A drugs. The investigation is still ongoing,

On February 23<sup>rd</sup> we had a fantastic result in Wickford whilst hosting a Coffee with Cops. PCSO Edwards, PCSO Grant and PCSO Webster received a call from the Co-Op who used the Wickford Shop Town Link Radio System which has recently been installed, about a male and female stealing. They were tracked down and detained by the PCSOs, they were then arrested by Police Officers who were also patrolling in the area. The couple were arrested for theft and going equipped.



The Town Link Radio is worn by the community Policing Team so the local shops have a direct link, the system also links participating shops and establishments plus its linked to Basildon CCTV Centre. It was a great team effort involving the police and the staff from the Co-Op. A job well done and superbly executed.

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## Digital 101

You can report non-emergency crime by calling 101 or by using **Digital 101**, our quick and easy to use online service that's available at any time.



**Digital 101** is available on the Essex Police website: [essex.police.uk](http://essex.police.uk)



If you, or anyone you know, is interested in protecting and serving Essex, you can follow us on social media, or search **#FitTheBill**