

THE BOBBY

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL GIBRALTAR POLICE



In this issue:

Update in Neighbourhood Policing - Life as a Police Trainee
RGP goes BMW - Policing Sporting Events - Passing Out Parade

10TH EDITION
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Cover Photo:
COCO - a new addition to the Dog Section

CONTENTS

- 5 Little Princess Trust
- 7 Mark Galliano - A new addition
- 8 Update in neighbourhood policing
- 10 Life as a police trainee
- 11 Social media
- 12 RGP goes BMW
- 15 When I am not at work - PC Aaron Ignacio
- 18 Kids summer camp
- 20 Underage drinking
- 21 Safety at sea
- 23 Policing sporting events
- 24 German police officer visits RGP
- 25 Passing out parade
- 27 Emilio Acris retires
- 30 Welfare Officers - NAPWA

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Commissioner's Foreword



With summer 2014 well underway, we are happy to issue the latest edition of The Bobby. As always, this issue is packed with a wide variety of interesting articles and a spectrum of appealing features giving you an insight into the work that goes on at the RGP.

The RGP is evolving very rapidly to meet the demands of today's society and responding to these in its Neighbourhood Policing concept. Within this edition, a trainee also gives us an insight into the RGP through his eyes, and we take a look at some of the work carried out by the School Liaison Officers this summer.

Once again, I would like to thank all those busy police officers and civilian staff for their time and contributions, without your help The Bobby would not be as popular as it is.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition.

Edward Yome CPM

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Little Princess Trust

A charity to provide real hair wigs for children suffering hair loss

By PC Emma Rowbottom



The Little Princess Trust was launched in 2006 by the parents of Hannah Tarplee, along with help from friends and from Hannah's school, Hereford Cathedral Junior School.

Hannah was the original Little Princess. Sadly she was diagnosed with having a Wilms tumour and after a brave battle, died in 2005.

After Hannah passed away, so many kind people offered help, financial and practical. Hannah's parents, Wendy & Simon decided that the most fitting way to use this help was to launch a charity dedicated to providing specialist children's wigs. Like so many Little Princesses, Hannah loved her hair and losing it was very traumatic.

At that time, finding high quality wigs for children was very difficult and only after a long search was a suitable company found which eventually made a wig for Hannah. She very much enjoyed wearing her wig, particularly on special occasions. This company is now one of the Little Princess Trust's many suppliers.

Since its inception, the charity has now helped over 2,200 boys and girls. The trust works with suppliers throughout the UK and Ireland, all of whom supply beautiful wigs.

Wendy and Simon are still very involved with the charity in conjunction with the other Trustees: Tim Wheeler (Chair of Trustees), Head of Hereford Cathedral Junior School, Tim Lowe who is the former headmaster of the school at the time when Hannah was a pupil and Tracey Prosser who owns Peter Prosser Hairdressing, a highly successful salon in Hereford.

The Trust employs four part-time members of staff and one full-time who operate the charity on a day-to-day basis. The trust is also privileged to benefit from the efforts of many kind and generous committed volunteers who help with many aspects of the Trust.

What they do

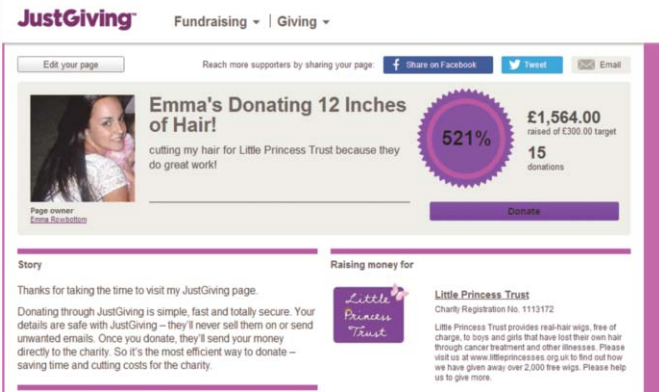
The Little Princess Trust is a children's cancer charity and the mission is to supply real-hair wigs to children suffering with cancer, for the duration of their treatment. However, in addition the charity assists children with other conditions which also result in hair loss, the most common being alopecia. The commitment to these children is different. Despite being set up to help children with cancer, the Trust is pleased to confirm that they will also supply children that do not have a cancer diagnosis with one wig. Whilst the trust is unable to commit to supplying more than one wig to each child, it hopes that this gesture will help the family whilst they decide on their long-term plans for dealing with the condition. The wigs provided are free to children. However, the cost of one wig to the charity is on average £350. However, as a result of many donations of hair, the trust receives a large number of free wigs that can be provided to children that need them. Any amount of fundraising generated towards this cost will help to continue to provide wigs to both boys and girls throughout the UK and Ireland that have lost their own hair through cancer treatment.

My experience

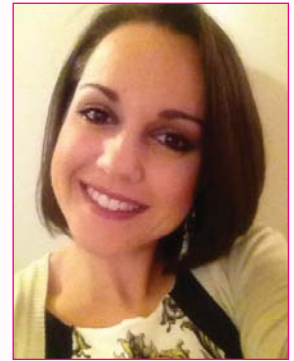


I have always had very long hair with the length reaching my hips. Colleagues at work were often surprised to see me when my hair was left loose as my hair was always tied neatly into a bun. They have always commented on how lovely my hair

is and I thought it would be great to donate towards making a wig for children suffering from cancer. I first contacted the charity and informed them that I would like to donate and fundraise. Shortly after I received a fundraising package from the charity, filled with posters and leaflets packed with information on both the charity and children they have helped.



The cut was done by my mother; she first made my hair into a plait and tied it at both sides and then cut above the hair band. The change in weight once the plait was cut off was strange as I haven't had my hair this short in years. I originally planned to only cut 8 inches off but decided on 12 inches on the day.



Fundraising- I sent an internal email to all colleagues both civilian and Police Officers at work and was shocked at the amazing feedback that I received with numerous emails asking how to donate towards the charity. I then organised donations forms that were circulated round to all staff, and also started a just giving page and advertised it on local internet sites.

A total of £1564.00 has been raised for the Little Princess Trust. I would just like to express my gratitude to all staff both civilian and officers from the Royal Gibraltar Police and the public for donating in support of this cause. This has also inspired others to also fundraise/ donate locks of hair to the charity.

Donation summary

	*Online donations £235.00
	Offline donations £1,329.00

A total of £235.00 was raised on the just giving page and £1329.00 from cash donations within two weeks.

If you are thinking of donating and would like some information on the charity or would like advice on how to raise funds please don't hesitate in contacting me I would love to help. It was a fantastic and rewarding experience especially knowing that the charity is helping so many children!



Mark Galliano

new addition



Mark joined the RGP Records Department on the 1st April 2014 having been in Government service since 2003.

"I have been involved in the past five years taking pictures in the local music scene. This all came about when after attending a course at the local photography club I saw that I could fuse two of my passions. I was able to enjoy my love for music (especially the local music scene) and capture the feel of the event. Whilst

doing this I have also been increasing my field to cover social events such as parties, baptisms, communions and anything else I could cover. Expanding and improving my expertise in this field has led to some great opportunities that over the past few years I have been lucky enough to take. These include covering concerts for Breed 77, Reach and Taxi. Some highlights also include being the Gibraltar Jazz Festival's official photographer for two years, meeting Jools Holland and Mel C from the Spice Girls. I have also had the opportunity to photograph at the Gibraltar Music Festival as press photographer. Whilst covering events and expanding I was given the opportunity to cover a local dance production. Once I started covering dance shows I was challenging myself to improve the photos and having been getting some great reviews from the local dance world on the quality, to the point that I cover all major dance events in Gibraltar. Being a photographer has helped me open my eyes and appreciate the talent that we have locally and I hope that I will be able to carry on capturing these special moments for a long time."



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Update in Neighbourhood Policing



As a detective in the Serious Crime Unit for many years I thought that nothing would be more demanding. Despite being well aware of the role of the Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT), to say that I was surprised by the challenges and demands would be something of an understatement!

To start with I should say that all officers in the organisation would definitely benefit from a spell at the unit so they could properly understand the concepts, not to mention the extremely hard work put in by the officers here. Most importantly it is vital that every officer understands the role played by NPT at the forefront of our drive to provide a service to the community of which they can be proud and which will raise public confidence in the RGP.

From the start, the divisional commanders and I have encouraged our officers to talk to people, purely and simply talk to them. This should not only apply to NPT officers, but to all of us. All too often we patrol on foot or mobile and only exchange words with the public when we are dealing with an incident. It is my experience that people appreciate it when an officer has a friendly chat with them. Bear in mind that otherwise their only interaction with police could well be confrontational. A smile and a friendly word will go

“we encourage officers to get out there and interact with the public as often as possible.”

a very long way towards raising public confidence. As a result we encourage officers to get out there and interact with the public as often as possible.

One of the first things we did at NPT was consider how much time officers were spending out of their neighbourhoods. This was born out of necessity as briefings were held at the Compound, the paperwork was held at the Compound and most of their docket preparation was therefore carried out there. I felt that this kept those officers away from their neighbourhoods for far too long in their tour of duty, as once they had done all that they still had to deploy to their respective districts, without making much use of the district offices themselves.

As a result, we took a good look at our district offices and after some work, mostly done by officers in their free time to make these facilities fit to use as a base, we moved each of the four teams to their



respective district offices, including personal lockers, filing cabinets etc. Briefings are now conducted on location and once officers walk out they are directly in their respective districts. As a result district offices are now open longer, and all work officers carry out is done from there, thus raising their profile within the area.

Also we looked at the flexibility of the hours worked, bearing in mind that NPT officers very often have to support the Area Response Teams, in particular with queues, prisoners etc. NPT Sergeants have now been given greater flexibility to adapt their working hours to be able to tackle

specific concerns, whilst generally keeping a shift pattern that permits presence in the communities for longer periods.

Finally, we have initiated a drive to provide timely support to vulnerable adults and victims of crime. NPT officers frequently liaise with officers in charge of cases or complaints taken in order to provide victims of crime with feedback on the state of enquiries into their complaint. We cannot underestimate the way feedback is appreciated by victims of crime, even if it's to inform them that enquiries proved negative, the mere fact that we get back to them shows that something was actually done to try to identify a culprit and that their complaint has not fallen on deaf ears.

Having said all that there is still a lot left to be done. If only days were 48 hours long! For example, we want to get our beach duty and neighbourhood officers to make use of police bicycles as a means of transport, where the geography allows. We will shortly be making visible progress on ASBO's and CRASBO's which are currently being processed by AG's Chambers, and we have a Neighbourhood Watch pilot programme in the pipeline which should see the light of day (or night as the case may be!) before too long.

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Life as a Police Trainee



My name is Ryan Castle and I joined the RGP Trainee Scheme on the 14th of April 2013. I joined because I've always aspired to be a police officer, wearing the uniform, and making Gibraltar a better place. Today, marks a year and three months since my entry into the Royal Gibraltar Police.

I have learnt so much and having experienced what it's like to be out there as a Police Officer, I have decided that this is the career I want to take. I enjoy coming to work every day and see what the day brings.

In the initial three months of my scheme I was in a classroom based environment where I was given a thorough grounding in the practical and theoretical aspects of day to day policing. These included memorizing legislation, the discipline code and my personal favourite: learning self defence through the Unarmed Defence Tactics training course.

Any day could be made up of the application of any combination of skills that make up the Police Officer's role. I have had to learn discipline, learn certain laws and apply different competences such as good communication and observation.



I've also worked at the public counter, shadowed police officers in different shifts, worked with the School Liaison Officers and dealt with traffic management and many other things.

During my time in the scheme I have been attached to many different departments. These were Command and Dispatch, Custody, Neighbourhood Policing Unit, Safeguarding Unit, Crime Scene Investigation Unit and finally the Area Response Teams. I definitely have not suffered from a lack of variety or work! The excitement of ART though, has been what has stood out for me. I am definitely looking forward to being a part of the RGP in the future.

Social Media



planning stages it was always envisaged that these communication streams would be designed to engage with our community and not simply to pump information out. In other words they were

designed to ensure the RGP listens to the community and its concerns.

To this end shortly after the launch of the Facebook page we piloted interactive social media clinics. These are simultaneously run on both Facebook and Twitter and allow members of the public to engage in a social media conversation with RGP decision makers about the issues that affect them. These clinics are of two types. There are monthly clinics, which are consecutively targeted at each of our four policing sectors and additionally there are thematic clinics dealing with issues such as traffic. These have proved to be a great success with several thousand people tapping into the conversation as it happens and many more reading it after the clinic has ended.

We are extremely satisfied at the way in which we have been able to further engage with our community through social media and we will continue to explore avenues to enhance this further. Please follow us on Twitter or Like us on Facebook!

The Royal Gibraltar Police is a forward thinking organisation and on the 8th May 2012 we embarked on a journey, which has tied us even closer to the community we serve. On that day we tentatively launched our @RGPolice Twitter account concerned as to whether people would take up on it. We needn't have worried, we now boast over 6000 followers! We now also have individual Twitter accounts for the Neighbourhood Policing Unit and senior officers where you can get a behind the scenes look at how the RGP works.

The RGP is justifiably proud of its close links with the community not least through the augmentation of the Neighbourhood Policing Teams however what this pivotal event did was to place the RGP in people's living rooms through the use of social media. No longer did people have to call the police or wait till they casually met an officer on the beat they could now interact with the RGP as never before, from the comfort of their own homes.

Other developments soon followed with the total revamping of our website to make it more interactive and, crucially the launching of a professionally created Facebook page. During the





RGP goes BMW

Photo: M. Figueras

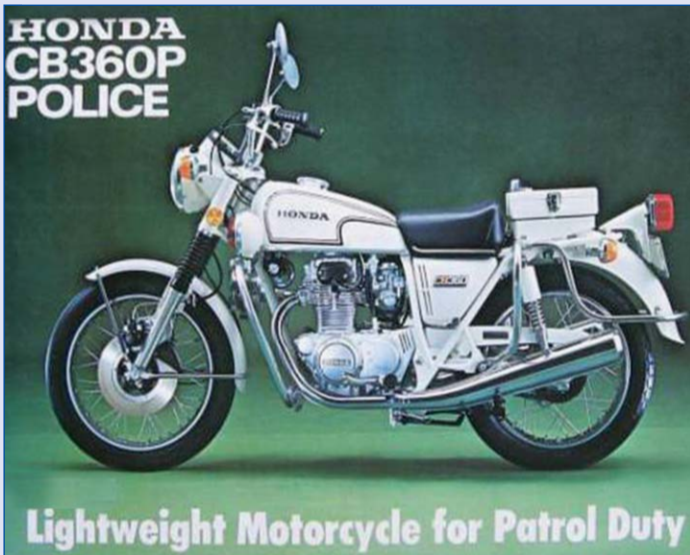
The Royal Gibraltar Police has over the last four decades relied almost exclusively on Honda motorcycles as the workhorse for Operational officers.

From the first model that was brought into service, the CB360P (P designates Police), to the CB500P through to the current model, the CB750P, these motorcycles have demonstrated a reliability second to none. Despite daily use, these machines plough on year after year with little ever going wrong with them.

Unfortunately and due to engine emission regulations, Honda discontinued the manufacture of this model in favour of their Pan European model, which was not specifically designed as a

Police motorcycle. Although Honda has supplied these motorcycles to several police organisations, they never have really enjoyed the success of their previous models.

BMW however have over the years slowly but surely taken over the Police motorcycle market and are now the preferred choice of Police forces worldwide. In 2008, BMW claimed to be the largest seller of motorcycles for authority use, as more than 100,000 BMW motorcycles were in official use in over 150 countries on five continents. Such is the reliability of BMW, that even the California Highway Patrol with their enduring relationship with the US produced Harley Davidson Electra Glide, have all but replaced them with the BMW.



A few months ago, the RGP took delivery of two 2014 BMW RT1200P motorcycles. These bikes were delivered in white with the new redesigned Battenburg livery. The engine is an air/oil cooled 2 cylinder boxer engine with a displacement of 1170cc and 110 bhp. The BMW is shaft driven as was the Honda.

Shaft drives have proved to be much more reliable and maintenance free as opposed to chain driven motorcycles. Despite the bulkier

appearance the BMW weighs in at 285kg, which is well over 20kg less than the Honda. The BMWs have both analog and digital instrumentation as well as bright led bulbs for the emergency lights.

The acquisition of these two new motorcycles are a police motorcyclists dream. Beautifully designed, professional looking and with a great street presence which turns heads, we look forward to eventually replacing our aging motorcycle fleet with similar machines.

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WHEN I AM NOT AT WORK



PC Aaron Ignacio



My passions in life are my kids, my wife and music. I started playing guitar from around the age of 12 years old, and always dreamed of playing in large concerts. This is a dream that fortunately I have fulfilled several times now.

One of my first bands was back in 2000 where I played with Sergeant Fernandez and his brothers in a punk covers band called Underhill. In 2009 I joined up with Metro Motel playing as a lead guitarist for them. By 2010, we had played two festivals in Spain alongside popular Spanish bands. Things were going well with Metro Motel and by 2012 we released the single Sin Ti, the proceeds of which went to charity.

2013 was a busy period with Metro Motel. We played concerts such as the May Day Festival in

Casemates Square alongside the band Taxi amongst others and also played the first Gibraltar Music Festival at the Victoria Stadium as well as various gigs in Madrid at the Sala Honky Tonk and Sala Caracol. Alongside playing these gigs and concerts, Metro Motel spent time writing songs for a new album. The material was recorded over six separate dates at Punta Paloma. The album Entre Sombras is out now.



It was due to conflicts of interests that I decided to part ways with Metro Motel and to pursue different avenues in music. These days I am running two different musical projects at the time. Most of my time with music is spent writing original material, new songs as well as playing acoustic covers to play at local bars.



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Pride Diversity and Equality March



Pride Diversity and Equality March



SLO visits to schools



SLO visits to schools



Stig - another addition to the Dog Section



Promotions: Insp Perera, Supt Ullger, Ch Insp Tunbridge and PS Fortuna



New Uniform – Cleaning Staff



SLO Football Tournament – Drug Awareness



SLO Football Tournament – Drug Awareness



RGP and GDP officers undertook a National Operational Firearms Commanders Course run by the West Midlands Police.



Kids' Summer Camp



The RGP Kids' Summer Camp is an initiative that has now been running for the past 2 summers and is growing in popularity each year, going from 2 camps held last year to 4 this year

The camp is open for children aged between 8 and 10, who apply online. Each year the response is fantastic and places are filled within 24 hours with approx 20 children in each 5 day camp.

The Camp is set over a week; from Monday to Friday (9am till 1230pm) with a variety of activities set out aimed so that the children experience what being a police officer is all about and what it is that we do on a day to day basis.

When the children arrive on the Monday morning they are conveyed down to St Anne's School gym where they are put

through a 'gruelling' assault course and activities that police officers have to do before they join the force. Once they have passed this 'test' they all receive a police 'warrant card' which they all get to wear, showing they are now official Police Trainees. This i/d card they get to wear for the duration of the Kids' Summer Camp and then take home as part of the package of souvenirs.

On the Tuesday, the children walk to NMH Police Station where they show their warrant card to the police officer at the reception area and whereby they are then granted access into New Mole House Police Station. Once inside, they get to visit the SOCO office, where they receive an introductory talk with regards to the department, and they then get to have their fingerprints taken. They then move onto the Custody area where they get to see the police cells; interview room as well as the breathalyser room.



officer aboard the Sir William Jackson and weather permitting, one of the fast RHIBS. If they are lucky, they may get to see a few dolphins.

Thursday it's K9 day. The children get to meet and watch the police dogs in action; they get to see how the dog uses its very keen sense of smell in finding the criminal and taking down the bad guys!!!!

Friday is fun day... The children all attend the compound with their bathing costumes as they WILL get wet, and it is fun fun fun all the way. During the day the children get to play lots of water games. They also get to use our riot shields, which they put to use in a role playing game, whereby they have to escort a VIP person (another child) from one area to another, whilst being pelted with water balloons by an angry mob (lots and lots of children) the aim of the game is to see who can get the VIP from one area to the next without getting him/her wet.

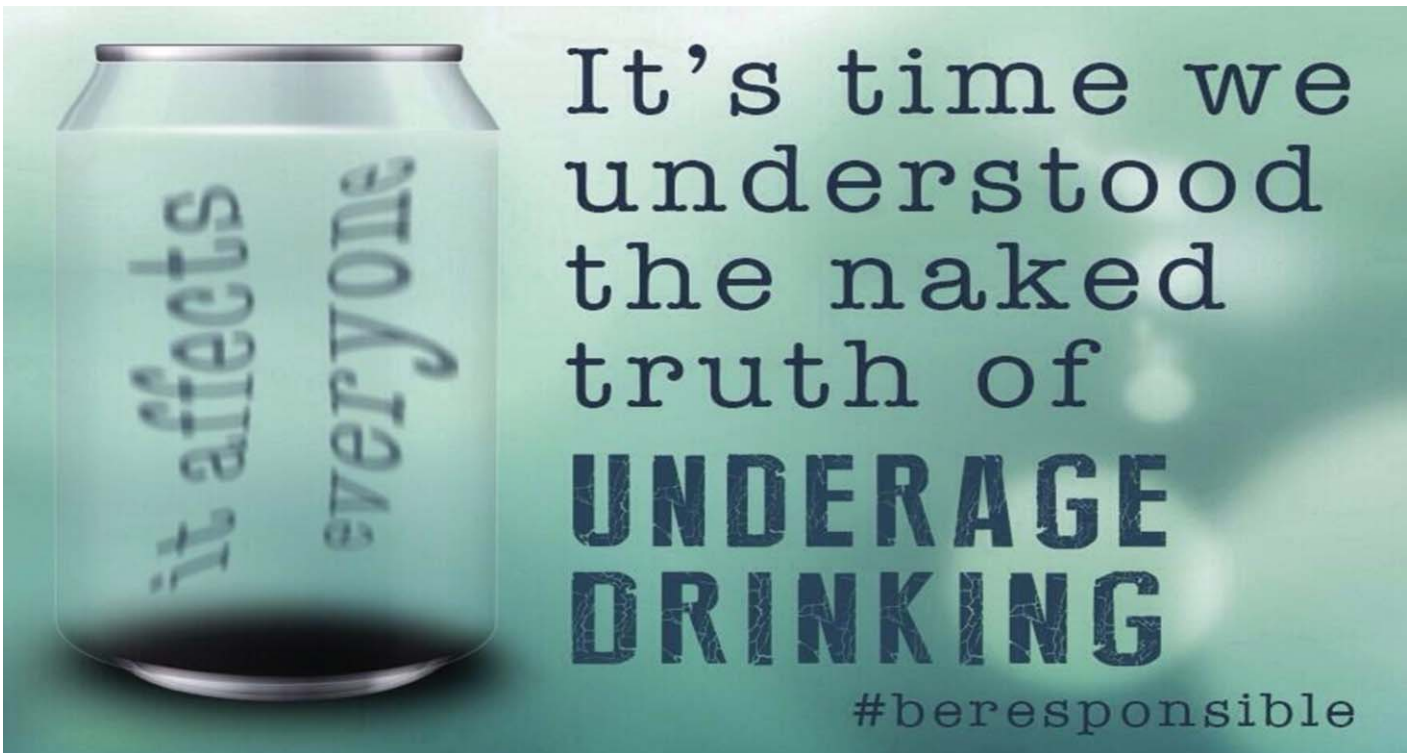
After a hard day's work it's hot dogs for all and the end of camp awards. The children are treated to hot dogs and refreshments after which they are all presented with a certificate and pack to take with them by our Commissioner of Police, Mr Yome.

Lastly and just as exciting as the last two departments, they get a chance to see the police control room and experience first hand how busy being a police officer is. They also get the chance to see how the controllers deal with all the calls the police receive on a daily basis. They then head down to the traffic compound where they are all allowed to go on the various police vehicles the RGP operate; including the police motor cycle for a photo session.

Wednesday is out to sea with the Marine Section. After a quick safety brief, the children put on their life jackets and get to experience a day in the life of a Marine Section



OUR TEAM. YOUR SOLUTION



UNDERAGE DRINKING campaign

The School Liaison Office (SLO) Underage Drinking Campaign, is a year round campaign aimed at educating the youth of Gibraltar about the dangers of alcohol and the laws associated with alcohol in the CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS (ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND GAMING) ACT 2006.

With the aid of Gibraltar Government's Drugs Co-ordinator, John MONTEGRIFFO , the SLOs give regular talks to students at Bayside Comprehensive School, Westside Comprehensive School and the College of Further Education. Such talks take place all year round and at key times of the year such as National Day and festivities such as the build up to Christmas and New Years Eve among others. The talks are geared towards making children and students aware of the dangers of alcohol and the problems that are associated with binge drinking.

Alongside the talks, the SLOs organise events under the Alcohol Awareness Banner for students of both comprehensive schools with the aim to increase awareness and promote a healthier lifestyle through sport. Key events include a 5-a-side-football tournament for students at Bayside Comprehensive School and a netball tournament for students at Westside Comprehensive School which take place during the New Year period.

A hands-on approach is also being undertaken by the SLOs in a current campaign. On Friday nights an SLO officer is on-duty for the purpose of

tackling underage drinking. The on-duty officer is also on hand to give advice to licensed premises and to identify and deal with youths consuming alcohol illegally.

In the event that a youth has been identified as having consumed alcohol illegally, the SLO officer on duty deals with them accordingly; their parents are contacted and a meeting arranged for all parties involved. In this meeting, an educational talk is given on the dangers of alcohol and the consequences of their actions. Should any information come forth in relation to licensed premises or persons procuring alcohol for underage persons, the officers would then deal with them according to the laws of Gibraltar.

Other awareness promoting talks are also given by the SLOs to local establishments who request them. Recently, a talk was given to a group of persons on a wine tasting course as well as students organising a pub crawl.

UNDERAGE DRINKING campaign





Safety at Sea



During the summer season, its nice weather and (generally) calm seas, more and more people took to the beaches and the sea. Going out on the water can be a lot of fun, and is a way of life in coastal communities like Gibraltar. But the sea can be an unpredictable and dangerous place. Taking some simple precautions can make your time on the water even more enjoyable, and reduce your chances of getting into trouble.

The following are simple rules to follow which will help you stay safe;

■ Life saving equipment

The water can be extremely unpredictable. It is vital to wear a lifejacket or buoyancy aid. Lifejackets save lives and are useless unless worn. If you find yourself in the water, a lifejacket or buoyancy aid could save your life. But only if you ensure that it is the correct size and type for you, properly fastened and maintained, and that you understand how to operate it.

Even in crowded waters and close to the shore, a life-threatening incident might go unnoticed.

Engine & Fuel check

On many occasions we receive distress calls from boat-users with machinery failure and/or boats that have run out of fuel. If your craft has an engine, we strongly recommend that you know the basics of starting, running and maintaining that engine.

■ Marine Weather

Weather, especially bad weather, can spoil a day. Even when the weather is fine, it can change suddenly to become uncomfortable or even threatening. This applies to both short and long passages. Always check the weather forecast before you set off. Get regular updates if you are planning to be out for any length of time. Be prepared to change your plans or cancel the trip if the forecast is unfavourable.

■ Communications & SOS devices

The ability to call for help or signal for assistance is imperative. So always carry with you a mobile phone and/or VHF radio (preferably both). Ensure that the batteries are fully charged and protected from getting wet.

The RGP Marine Section occasionally receives calls reporting vessels overdue or missing. The emergency services must then decide where to start the search pattern. Knowing where the vessel is likely to be can increase the chances of a successful rescue.

Before setting off on your trip you should inform someone ashore of:

- your passage plan (intended trip).
- your return time
- how to contact the emergency services and what to tell them if you are overdue.

Knowing where you are is obviously an advantage. By keeping your charts up to date and learning basic navigations skills, you will decrease your chances of going aground on sandbanks or rocks.



■ Training

It is highly advisable that if you intend navigating a motor vessel you first undertake the necessary training. Many of the incidents to which the RGP Marine Section is called are due to, or exacerbated by, inexperience and lack of training. As boating and other water sports have grown in popularity, we have seen a lowering in the average level of knowledge among those who go to sea for fun. It is important that newcomers realise that they are entering an unfamiliar and potentially dangerous environment and that they need to get the appropriate level of training to allow them to fully enjoy the pleasures and challenges of their sport. The best places to find suitable courses and qualifications for your sport are Royal Yachting Association (RYA) approved sailing centres.

So Remember.....

1. LIFEJACKETS

Take them - Wear them. Boats, especially ones under 6m in length, can sink very quickly. Wearing a life jacket increases your survival time in the water.

2. SKIPPER RESPONSIBILITY

The skipper is responsible for the safety of everyone

on board and for the safe operation of the boat. Stay within the limits of your vessel and your experience.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

Take two separate waterproof ways of communicating so we can help you if you get into difficulties.

4. MARINE WEATHER

The weather around Gibraltar can be unpredictable. Check the local marine weather forecast before you go out and expect both weather and sea state changes.

5. AVOID ALCOHOL

Safe boating and alcohol do not mix. Things can change quickly on the water. You need to stay alert and aware.



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Policing Sporting Events

The challenges ahead



The Royal Gibraltar Police is no stranger to policing large scale public events as evidenced by the numerous events we police safely every year such as National Day, Cavalcade, Calentita and the Gibraltar Music Festival. We are therefore very experienced in delivering a quality service that caters for the uniqueness of the event, with public safety uppermost in our mind.

The 24th May 2013 provided an additional challenge and one we have taken up with a great deal of enthusiasm. On that day [another large scale policing event!] RGP officers celebrated with our fellow Gibraltarians, the Gibraltar FA's admission to UEFA to become Team 54. It was certainly a very proud moment.

This brought with it a number of policing challenges not least dealing with large scale football events. The RGP is a strategic thinking organisation and very shortly after the announcement we were already engaging with UK partners in order to tap into their experience in this aspect of policing, which is extensive. A couple of football matches then followed shortly after at the Victoria Stadium against Scottish and English opposition at which we learned a number of lessons in crowd dynamics and the management of fan segregation.

Further contacts with our colleagues led to RGP commanders, spotters and intelligence officers shadowing counterparts in Merseyside Police and we are grateful to Everton Football Club, Liverpool Football Club and Tranmere Rovers Football Club for allowing us to be there. A special thanks also goes to the Merseyside Police Operational Planning Unit for hosting us on top of their busy schedule.

This exposure to live match situations involving large scale crowd dynamics and being able to tap directly into the vast experience of our UK colleagues has been of immense value to us and we are far better prepared to deal with large footballing events with a great degree of confidence as evidenced by our management of the recent games against the Faroe Islands and Estonia. The learning curve has been steep but we are already well on our way!

The use of the Stadio Algarve in Faro-Loulé for Gibraltar's home games until the completion of the new stadium has also seen RGP officers regularly travelling to Faro to meet our counterparts in the Guarda Nacional Republicana (GNR) with whom we have established a close working relationship.

Gibraltar's admission to UEFA has presented a host of challenges but these are enjoyable challenges and we are extremely confident that by the time the new stadium is built we will be well equipped to deal with this matter in the finest traditions of the RGP.



German Police Officer visits RGP



The RGP have hosted a German Police Officer for the past two weeks.

training programme and as part of this he had to embark on a two week secondment to a foreign Police Force. As with other German Police Officers he chose Gibraltar.

These secondments help the German Police trainees gain experience on how other jurisdictions police their communities and serves as a valuable tool to assist in the exchange of ideas and service delivery improvement where appropriate.

Inspector Jesco Timmers of the North Westphalia Police in Dusseldorf is completing his three year Officers'

Inspector Timmers was seconded to various RGP departments including the Marine Section.

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PC Dyandra Desoiza
Most Improved Fitness



Passing out Parade



PC Daniel RUFFLE
Best Academic Recruit

I never believed that an opportunity to join the Royal Gibraltar Police would arise coming from the UK and being married to a Gibraltarian. However last December that opportunity did present itself. After a discussion with my wife, I applied for an application pack, filled it out and within

a week received a phone call inviting me to attend a selection weekend in January.

I will never forget this experience as it was the wettest and windiest weekend I had seen for a long time and the storm didn't really subside. On arrival there were over thirty persons present and I didn't recognise anyone. I remember the selection weekend as being very intense, where the trainers pushed you to your limits.

The first exercises involved introducing a total stranger from the group, standing in front of

everyone including rank and file officers that had come to assess us, that was nerve racking! After that it was team building exercises, exams, memory tests, physicals and a real lack of sleep at the end of it! The most enjoyable aspect was the final physical exercise carrying a stretcher through buildings and obstacles, which whilst exhausting and bloodied, was satisfying!

After being told that I had been accepted for the Royal Gibraltar Police it was an absolute amazing feeling. I wrote my resignation letter that day and sent it. Our house was sold in the UK within the month and my wife and two young children of 8 weeks and 2 years old moved back to Gibraltar. The day after arriving Training school commenced.

Training school was a shock to the system. At 36 years old the last time I attended a training school was when I was 21! The course literature was challenging and the schedule was gruelling. From day one it was study and exams. I was also trying to balance this with family life, this meant I was sometimes studying until 1am in the morning which wasn't fun. I initially felt I struggled with the retention of the information as I has almost



forgotten how to study but once I found a system I actually began to enjoy being able to retain the facts and recite them verbatim. The exams were long and difficult, lasting about 3 hours and there were 10 of them. The practicals were good and the two trainers had presented the course material in a way that made it easy to absorb and any questions put to them were answered. The people within the group were great and within a week we were all on first name basis and it certainly helped the course to be enjoyable.

On finding out that I had been selected as best Academic recruit I was extremely proud as the word academic has never been associated with me so I felt it as a great achievement and an enormous sense of pride.

Now I'm on Area Response Team and thoroughly enjoying the daily challenges it brings.



PC Maxine RODRIGUEZ
Best All Round Recruit

Being a Police Officer has always been an aspiration of mine since a very young age. The Police Service runs in my bloodline and I've always thought it was a career that I would enjoy pursuing. Once I decided to take the plunge and apply to join the service, I received

encouragement and support from both my family and friends. I enjoy a job that challenges me and teaches me different things every day and I believe that being an officer offers daily challenges in dealing with and helping different people.

The first step we had to take was the selection weekend which was very tough but showed us what to expect if we were to be successful to get into the training school. We had to undergo physical and mental exercises and compete with a large number of applicants.

After passing the selection weekend, the next step was the interview. I felt very happy when I was told I was successful as I knew it was a big step in my life that I was ready to take.

The school was enjoyable but demanding, having to sit weekly exams and having to learn and understand the different laws and RGP procedures. Numerous role play exercises served to put in practice the theoretical aspects of the course. I have met some amazing people in class, all with different backgrounds and of varying ages and we became a team since the beginning, helping each other to get through the tough 18 weeks. On a personal level, it instilled in me a high level of discipline and prepared me to deal with stressful situations and also brought out aspects of my personality which I didn't think I possessed.

I am grateful to have been given this opportunity and look forward to continue learning and developing my career as a police officer.

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Emilio Acris retires



Emilio Acris joined the Royal Gibraltar Police as a Police Cadet on the 7th of February 1977, at the age of 17 years. He progressed through the Operational Division and was attached to numerous departments, including the Criminal Investigation Department.

In October 1985 he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and returned to the Criminal Investigation Department the following year. Notably, in 1986 Emilio Acris was awarded the Royal Life Saving Society Vellum, for saving the life of a man that was drowning. In 1992 he was promoted to the rank of Inspector and commanded a unit within the Operational Division. In 1995 he was transferred to the Drug Squad,

during which time his experience and knowledge were pivotal in contributing to wider fight against narcotics and illegal drugs. In 1996 he was further commended by the US Naval Intelligence Service as a result of a successful drugs operation and later on in the year he was instrumental in liaising with Spanish law enforcement agencies in the apprehension of two individuals and the seizure of 8 tonnes of cannabis resin on the Spanish mainland. He was also awarded the Police Long Service Medal and later the Overseas Territories Medal for services to policing.

Emilio Acris continued his career within the Crime Division, where he headed Special Branch and later returned to the Criminal Investigation Department. In 2005 he was promoted to the rank



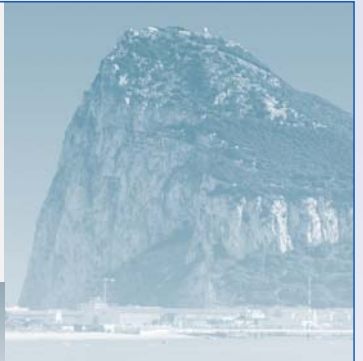
of Chief Inspector and in 2008 he was commended by the Commissioner of Police for his actions and determination in saving crew members from the stricken vessel Fedra, off Europa Point. Emilio was promoted to the rank of Superintendent in 2012.

Superintendent Acris was an extremely valuable senior member of the Royal Gibraltar Police and was the chairman of the Police Federation for the over 10 years. His knowledge and leadership helped steer the service from strength to strength, and his dedication to the force helped bring the organisation closer to the community.

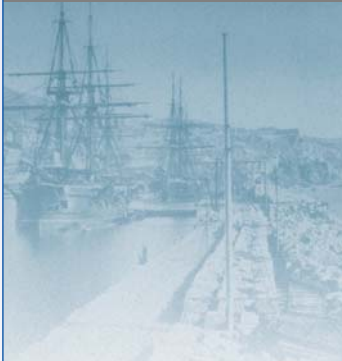


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Welfare Officers - NAPWA

On the 6 May 2014 PC 55 Henry Sacramento, RGP Welfare officer and Chairman of NAPWA, the National Association of Police Well-Being Advisors. Together with Mr. Alfred Rovegno City Fire Brigade Welfare officer, Mrs. Maria Elena Macias HR Welfare officer and Mr. Alex McDonald from HM Customs attended the AGM held at The Royal Bath Hotel in Bournemouth.

Representatives from Hampshire Police, South Wales Police, Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), Avon and Somerset, South Yorkshire Police, Dorset Police, Thames Valley Police, States of Jersey Police, Hertfordshire Constabulary and the RGP took part.

In his opening address, the Chairman PC Sacramento invited everyone to come and visit the Rock of Gibraltar and experience firsthand the wealth of history and the hospitality of the Gibraltarians. The conference packs were in Gibraltar bags which included brochures, note pads and pens kindly provided by the Gibraltar Ministry of Tourism.

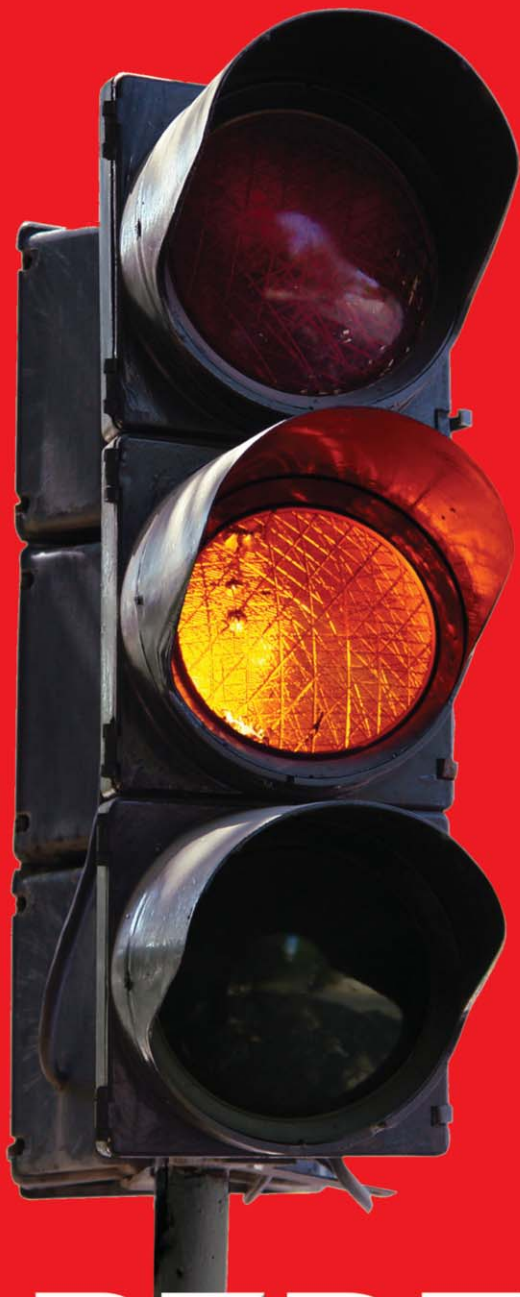
In the election of the new committee PC Sacramento was re-elected Chairman for the third consecutive year. During his tenure he has brought

the association into the 21st century and updated the constitution to reflect present day working practices. The introduction of workshops between annual conferences has also proved very valuable. PC Sacramento was praised by his peers for his fair leadership, organizational skills and his attention to detail. For his part PC Sacramento expressed especial thanks to the RGP Commissioner Mr. Eddie Yome for all the support in allowing him to undertake this task.

A workshop was delivered by Fiona Blair from Imperial College London and Keith Osborne from the MPS, on Stress. What causes it, its effects and how to manage it in a Police environment.

Day two saw a workshop delivered by Margaret Grant and Sue Duncan on, 'How to Relate Better, Understanding couple relationships'. The day provided a lot of class interaction and participation.

Attendance certificates were awarded at the close of what proved to be a very interesting and informative day. NAPWA now look forward to planning their next workshop in October 2014. The officer felt very proud of being given the opportunity to continue putting Gibraltar and the Royal Gibraltar Police in particular on the international map.



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