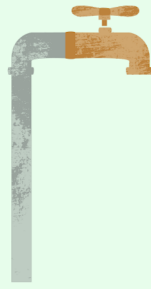


Meet your Rural Teams!

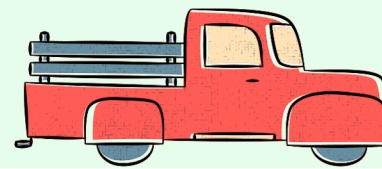
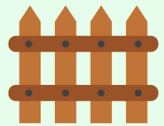
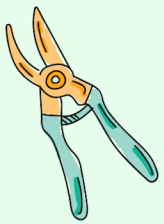


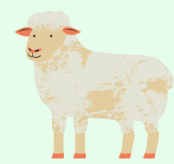
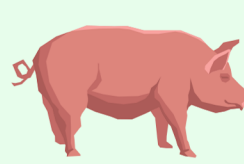
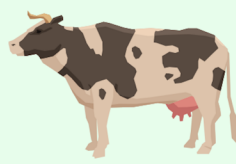
Our team currently consists of our Neighbourhood Team Leader (Sergeant) and our Sector Inspector, 8 Neighbourhood Beat Managers and 3 PCSOs; with 1 post hopefully being filled in the next few months.

A few words from Inspector Gray:

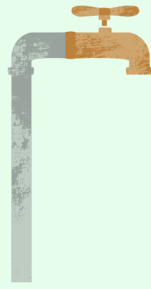
"My name is Phil Gray and I'm the Sector Inspector for Rural East Devon. As the Sector Inspector, I am responsible for the Response and Neighbourhood teams that Police across this wonderful geography. I began my career back in 1998 in Bedfordshire, working in the very busy area of Luton. After several years there, I decided to transfer to Devon & Cornwall Police, and was posted to North Devon where I remained on general patrol until several years later, taking up a post with the local Neighbourhood team.

After a few more years, I made the decision to specialise and went into the Criminal Investigation Department, most commonly known as CID. I became a Detective Constable dealing with serious and complex crime.





Meet your Rural Teams!

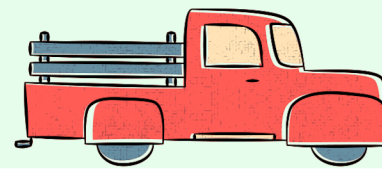
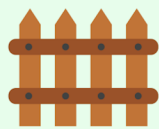
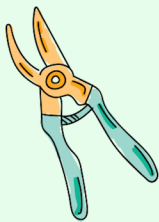


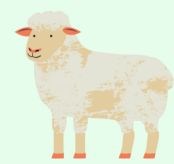
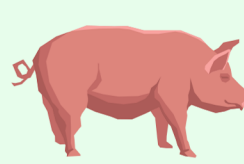
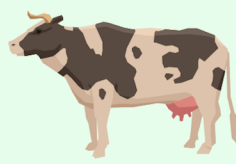
Unknown to me at the time, this is where the majority of my service was to take place. I later took my promotion exams, and was successfully promoted to Detective Sergeant, and then Detective Inspector, where I oversaw a team of Detectives and serious and complex investigations.

Around 2019, having stayed in North Devon since transferring all those years ago, I moved towards Exeter and became the Detective Inspector within the Public Protection Unit, which deals mainly with child-related investigations, and the management of serious and sexual violent offenders.

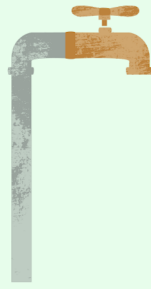
Having worked in that specialist area for two years, I decided that I wanted a complete change and decided to put my uniform back on, and was lucky enough to be posted into my current role as Sector Inspector.

This role brings very different challenges to those within the CID and Child Investigation departments. I have a great team of Neighbourhood and Response officers who all put themselves in harms way every day of the year in order to protect those within our communities, and do their best to keep everyone safe. As I enter the last 5 years of my 30 year career, I feel very privileged to lead such a dedicated team of individuals in a beautiful part of Devon."





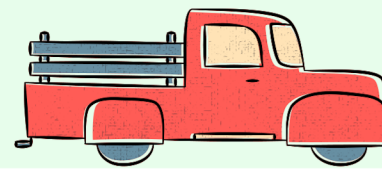
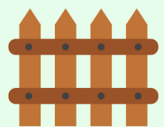
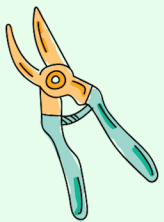
Meet your Rural Teams!

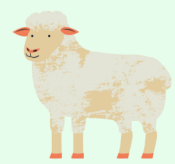
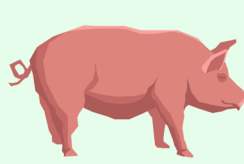


Sergeant Beards joined the police in January 2013 as a Call Handler, before joining as a Police Officer in October 2014. He was on Response in Mid Devon and Exeter before joining the Neighbourhood Team in Exeter. He then passed his Sergeant's exam and has been the Duty Sergeant for Exeter, Mid Devon and East Devon Response teams. A role which requires quick decision-making, multi-tasking, and a focus on operational requirements, Sergeant Beards joined the Neighbourhood team in early 2022.

A few words from Sergeant Beards:

"I really enjoy my role as the NTL. I have enjoyed being able to understand the needs of the community we serve, and be able to adapt the way I work and the way that my team works in order to better suit these needs. I am proud of the work that has been carried out by my team and I over the last 12 months. We have experienced a diverse range of different incidents, notably a number of warrants, policing events across Rural East Devon - such as the Sidmouth Air Show - and also a number of events relating to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and then the Queen's Funeral."





Rural Spotlight: Rural Local Engagement

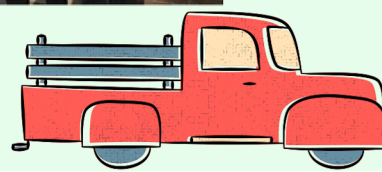
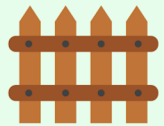
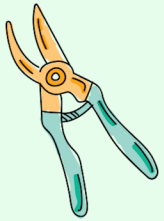
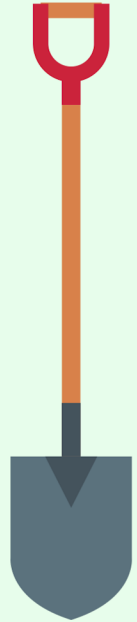


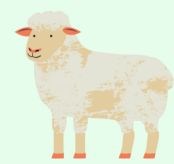
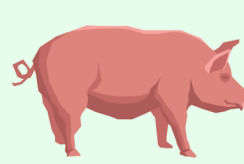
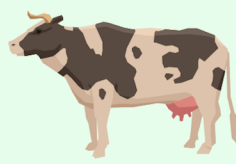
Local Advice Events:

07/02/2023: Honiton High St., 11.00hrs - 14.00hrs

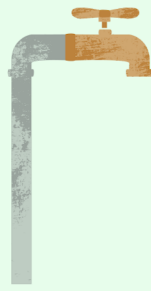
25/02/2023: Honiton High St., 12.00hrs - 15.00hrs

PCSO Darren England 30017 will be offering advice on crime prevention, property marking, the cycle register, and any other community issues you may have.





Rural Spotlight: Rural Local Engagement



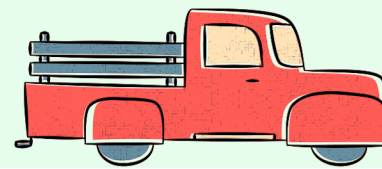
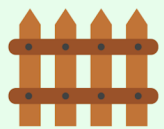
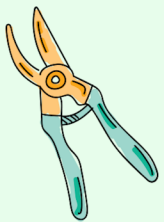
Our role often means working with partner agencies; the Sidmouth team have recently met with housing officers to discuss vulnerable adults and problem-solving anti-social behaviour in their properties, and the Axminster team at the Hub day. Hopefully the younger members of the community have also enjoyed seeing us recently, such as at online safety talks at Littleton Primary School, morning assemblies at Sidmouth College, and an impromptu Spanish lesson at Branscombe Primary School by the Seaton team. Offwell Primary School and Axminster Primary School have also been visited by officers. Most children won't have met a Police Officer before, or will only have known us in a negative way. However, we also want them to know us as a place that they can go to for help. The last thing we would want is a lost or frightened child to be too scared to come and speak to us; so getting into schools is a great way to facilitate positive encounters.

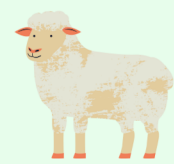
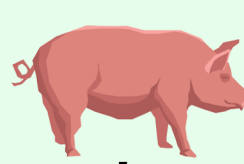
The Police Surgery in Honiton was a great success with the Honiton team getting lots of local intelligence. Our Axminster team have also been out with the Axe Valley Family Support Worker.

In Payhembury, Inspector Gray and Sergeant Beards were also patrolling the village. If you were in the Honiton or Sidmouth areas recently, you may have also seen Chief Superintendent Evans, Superintendent Butler-Jones, or Superintendent Hart joining teams for foot patrol.

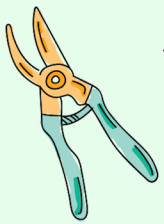
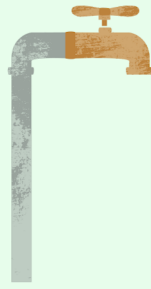
We have also been out in Kilmington, Venn Ottery, and Newton Poppleford.

This is only a snapshot of what the teams have been up to - we hope you have managed to spot us on foot patrol in various areas!

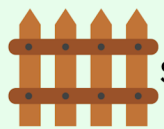




PCSO England: Celebrating 20 Years Service



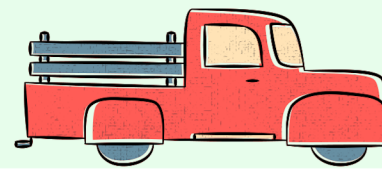
"I have just celebrated my 20 years in service with Devon and Cornwall Police as a PCSO in Honiton and East Devon. On 6th January, 2003, ten PCSOs started as part of a pilot scheme being run in East Devon; the first to be employed in Devon and Cornwall. We also had ten PCSOs start in Truro, Cornwall, meaning there were only 20 of us recruits.

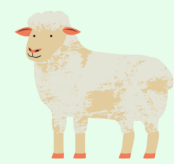
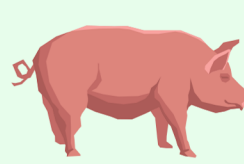
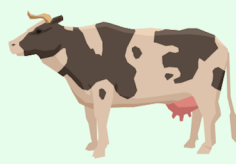


I moved to East Devon in the early 80s and went to primary school in Offwell before moving into Honiton, where I went to the Community College. I have lived and worked in Honiton since I was in my mid-teens. I worked as a baker before starting my job as a PCSO. My brother-in-law worked as a Sergeant within D&C Police at the time, and after reading an article and getting some advice from him, I applied for the PCSO role.

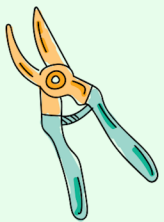
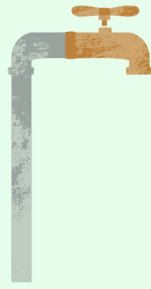


I have met many people throughout my time in the police force, and still continue to enjoy being able to support our community."

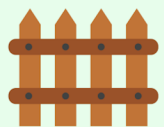




There aren't many things that a PCSO of 20 years service hasn't witnessed or learned, and Darren's knowledge proves to be vital on an almost daily basis; whether that be working out the best solution to a neighbour dispute, or diverting a fully laden horse box down a country lane to avoid a road closure! During his time at Honiton, he's been the visible face of policing, and can often be found on the high street conducting one of his foot patrols. He's also best known for his efforts working with our rural and farming communities around Honiton, where he's worked hard to build up relationships with those in some of our more isolated villages, offering them prevention advice and providing a reassuring presence. Darren doesn't come into work for praise and is a humble man. He serves his community to the best of his ability, and we all look forward to another 20 years serving alongside him.



Prevention, information and engagement opportunities:



HONITON MARKET: HONITON HIGH ST. MEET THE POLICE:

- 31/01/2023: 10:00
- 14/02/2023: 10:00
- 28/02/2023: 10:00



Thanks for reading! Stay tuned for the March issue...

