



COPS

ISSUE 48

CARE OF POLICE SURVIVORS

SUMMER 2015

Time to come together again

SUMMER is here – and members of the police family are invited to attend the annual Care of Police Survivors Service of Remembrance on Sunday 26 July.

Some 500 relatives of police officers who have been killed on duty, as well as colleagues and representatives from forces across the UK, will gather for the event.

During the service at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire, the Roll of Honour of police officers who have died on duty over the past 12 months will be read out.

Readings will be given by family members of fallen officers before force representatives lay wreaths to remember the thousands of officers who have died on duty over the years.

Denis Gunn, President of COPS, said: "Once again the Blue Knights and the Police Unity Tour will ride in to the Arboretum before the service, so please welcome them and show them our appreciation for the magnificent fundraising both groups do for COPS."

The annual weekend is always well attended by chief officers, but Care of Police Survivors would love more frontline officers to come and show their support at the Sunday service.

Last year, a guard of honour was formed by serving officers for families



COPS' annual Service of Remembrance will honour all fallen officers in July.



of those who have died on duty to walk through.

Jan Berry, Chairman of COPS, said: "The Service of Remembrance is a chance for us all to remember those no longer with us – and also to celebrate the memories we have of them.

"It is a culmination of a weekend of 'healing, love and life renewed' and is all part of the COPS mission – to help rebuild shattered lives.

"We would love to see more officers from all ranks in their uniforms



'on The Beat' [the police memorial avenue].

"That sort of visible display of support for survivors is priceless and is always appreciated."

The Sunday service, which begins around 11am, will be held at the conclusion of a weekend organised by COPS for the families of those officers who have died on duty. If you would like more information about attending the service, please email the office at admin@ukcops.org.

COPS family's new member

CARE of Police Survivors is delighted to welcome Richard Kotulecki as the charity's first Head of Operations.

This is a new position established by the Trustees to ensure the organisation of the charity and its governance are fit for purpose and that COPS provides the type and level of peer support Survivors need.

Richard (pictured) said: "I am delighted to be coming to COPS to take on what is, for me, a really exciting role. I applied for the role because I believe that COPS provides a hugely important service not just for the families of the police officers killed on duty, but for our society as a whole.



"In the UK, we are very lucky to live, safely and securely, with the knowledge that we are protected by men and women who volunteer to put themselves in harm's way on our behalf. In return for this, we should agree to a covenant making sure that these men and women and their families are properly looked after and supported."

Richard was previously Director of Services for the Willow Foundation, a national charity supporting seriously ill adults by providing unique and special days.



Disney fun

"WHAT an absolutely wonderful time we've had!" That was one comment about the COPS Children's Weekend at Disneyland Paris. The trip was made possible thanks to all the fantastic donations to COPS. The children are pictured as they prepared to jump on the train to Paris. More words and photos on page three.

Force says goodbye to loyal colleague

TRIBUTES have been paid to an "experienced, popular and highly respected" traffic officer who has died at Humberside Police.

PC Russ Wylie, a roads policing officer based at Melton, was involved in a road traffic collision near Burstwick on Monday 13 April.

The 28-year-old officer was taken by air ambulance to Hull Royal Infirmary after the incident but he died the following morning (14 April). His funeral was held on 29 April.

Messages of support for the officer's friends, family and colleagues have flooded in as the Humberside roads policing team paid tribute to their "trusted, loyal friend, colleague and brother".

PC Wylie, who worked predominantly on the south bank covering north and northeast Lincolnshire, will be "badly missed" by all his colleagues at the force, said Deputy



PC Russ Wylie was described as a trusted, loyal friend and colleague.

Chief Constable David Griffin.

DCC Griffin said: "Russell was an experienced and highly respected roads policing officer who will be badly missed by all his colleagues and friends in Humberside Police.

"The loss of life of a colleague on duty is felt by everyone in the force.

Our heartfelt thoughts are with Russell's family.

"We are grateful for the numerous messages of support and condolence that have been received from across the country.

"Russell's untimely death serves as a stark reminder of the risks that

face police officers up and down the country, day in and day out as they serve and protect the public.

"He was a popular officer who worked as part of a close knit highly professional roads policing team who are devastated by his loss."

His parents John and Sue and fiancée Roxanne issued a statement: "The sudden and tragic death of Russ has left us devastated and bereft.

"The loss we feel for this warm and caring man is immeasurable. He was full of so many hopes and dreams for the future that the thought of life without him is unbearable."

They added: "He looked after everyone and couldn't do enough for others, taking time out to help friends and neighbours alike. He made you feel safe and secure and he was considerate, caring and patient."

Met honours memory of its fallen officers

MET police officers have been remembering their fallen colleagues across the London boroughs.

In April, a service was held in Ilford, Essex, the site at which PC Phillip Walters was shot dead during a violent struggle to arrest a man on 18 April 1995.

On the same day two years earlier, PC Michael Perry was killed during a collision on duty while responding to an emergency call.

A wreath was laid in his honour.

And the previous day, on 17 April, officers attended a ceremony in honour of PC Yvonne Fletcher in St James's Square.

The memorial commemorated the officer, who was killed 31 years ago at the Libyan People's Bureau.

Wreaths were laid by officers and loved ones to remember WPC Fletcher – a dedicated officer who was greatly respected by her colleagues and the community.

A spokesman for the Metropolitan Police Federation said: "We pay tribute to their bravery and honour their memories."

PC's sudden death is 'devastating'

AVON and Somerset Constabulary have said they are "devastated" by the death of a popular police officer who died after becoming unwell on duty.

PC Kevin Stoodley, 40, who was married with children, was on his normal beat in Frome, Somerset when he was suddenly taken ill on 11 March.

The Avon and Somerset Constabulary officer was rushed to hospital but died a short time later. The flag at the force's headquarters was lowered to half mast as senior officers paid tribute.

Insp Mark Nicholson said his team were "devastated" by the loss of a close friend and dedicated colleague who had been an officer for 12 years.

He said: "Kevin was very popular both with his colleagues and with members of the public. He was a passionate family man and was devoted to his work in the community around Shepton Mallet, Wells and Street.

"He was a neighbourhood officer who was very heavily involved with our Police Cadets, and he had also worked as a frontline response



PC Kevin Stoodley died suddenly in March after becoming ill while on duty.

officer in the Wells area.

"He had the respect of all who met him. All his colleagues are deeply saddened by his death and our thoughts are with his family."

Somerset police Commander Ch Supt Daimon Tilley added that PC Stoodley was "a very well-liked and highly respected officer".

His wife Emma said: "We are devastated that Kevin has been taken

from us at such a young age. He would have been 41 next week.

"He was a wonderful husband and father to our children Tyler, 17, Kai, 11, and six-year-old Sapphira and a man who loved his work as a police officer. He had such a lot more to offer and it is so sad for us all that he is no longer with us."

PC Stoodley's funeral was held on 30 March.

Disney magic for COPS kids

MICKEY, Minnie, Pluto, Donald and all the gang were on hand to greet youngsters on the COPS Children's Weekend at Disneyland Paris.

A group of sons and daughters of officers who have died on duty took the trip to France to enjoy the rides and atmosphere of EuroDisney during the Easter holidays.

One parent said: "Please pass on my enormous thanks and appreciation to everyone involved in arranging the Disneyland trip for COPS families. The children have not stopped talking about what an amazing time they had.

"The boys said that everything was handled beautifully and that the COPS volunteers could not have been more helpful and friendly – and that the hotel and the food were totally top notch. Thank you, thank you, thank you from us all!"

Another parent added: "Last night of our trip away for the COPS Children's weekend at Disneyland Paris. I'm absolutely knackered. Thanks so much to those who have been involved in organising the trip and especially to all those who have raised money for this special charity over the years to allow events like this to happen.

"It is impossible to explain to people who have not walked our path how special it is to see these kids together who all share such a unique bond.

"Their young lives were shattered but how proud it makes me and all the other parents, I'm sure, to see what brilliant happy kids they all are.

"There's been laughs, thrills, new friends made and an odd tear at moments when we remember why we are here. But what an absolutely wonderful time we've had!"



COPS kids had plenty of fun at Disneyland Paris over the Easter holidays.



Coffee dates

THE first 'Coffee with COPS' took place on 13 April at the Village Hotel, Walsall, and proved a great success. Everybody agreed it had been productive meeting survivors they had previously not known. COPS will soon be rolling out this event across the UK. (Left to right) Mike Le Comte, Kate Hall, Heather Dallow, Helen Walker, Ann Ling and Bob Ling.

Muddy spider web raises charity cash

POLICE officers got soaking wet and covered with mud taking part in a Wild Run assault course to raise money for charity.

A total of 30 officers got involved in the event to raise cash for Care of Police Survivors. The run was 6km long, and involved participants jumping over obstacles and crawling in the mud at the event in Great Tew, Oxfordshire.

The race was organised by Vision Motorsport and took place in Enstone airfield in March.



COPS fundraisers had muddy fun on a 6km obstacle course.

Among the obstacles were a brook run, a spider web made of rope, a monster tyre climb, a slippery slide, a swamp swing, a log balance, a challenging climb over a cargo net and a grimy crawl through a muddy trench.

Kevin Tibble, from Banbury, took part in the event with his wife, Kim, 37, to support their friends who are in the police service.

The 35-year-old said: "It was really good, they had a lot of people doing the assault course and we really enjoyed it.

"We were covered in mud and it was quite tough but it was for a good cause."

Senior officers fill canteens with forks

SENIOR officers from across the UK are being asked to fill their police stations with forks to help boost morale – and raise cash for Care of Police Survivors.

The popular social media site Bullshire Police Federation is asking officers above the inspector rank to buy 12 forks for use at their police stations – and donate £5 to the charity at the same time.

The initiative has already attracted the support of a number of commanding officers.

Taking part to date include Lynne Owens, Chief Constable of Surrey Police; Simon Cole, Chief Constable of Leicestershire Constabulary; Irene Curtis, President of the Superintendents' Association; and Garry Forsyth, former Assistant Chief Constable of West Midlands Police and now Deputy Chief Constable of Humberside Police (pictured).

After donating the forks and money, they are then being asked to



Senior officers including Garry Forsyth (above right) have been donating forks to police stations for COPS.



nominate two other senior officers to do the same.

The Chairman of Bullshire Police Federation said the campaign is helping senior officers “boost morale amongst the troops”.

He added: “It is impossible to find a fork in any police station. We have officers eating dinner with a spoon at best – and that’s if you are lucky

enough to eat. Officers are loving the campaign.

“It’s great to raise morale and to raise awareness of Care of Police Survivors – and some money for the charity.”

Bullshire Police Federation estimates that at the time of writing more than 100 forks have been donated to police stations. “I would like

to fill every nick with forks,” added the chairman.

President of COPS, Denis Gunn, said: “We would like to thank Bullshire Police Federation for their initiative, which is not only raising funds, but addressing the welfare needs of police officers and staff who might otherwise be forced to use non standard utensils during breaks.”

COPS events for your diary

HERE is a list of upcoming COPS events for 2015.

21 June: Scottish Police Recreation Association Family Day, Scottish Police College.

11 July: Bike Safe, Castle Combe Race Track.

24-26 July: COPS Annual Remembrance Weekend, National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire.

13 August: Scottish Police Credit Union Golf Day, St Andrews.

23 August: Hornsea Annual Bike Event, Hornsea.

24-26 August: International Association of Women in Policing conference, Cardiff.

4 September: NARPO conference, Southport.

6 September: COPS and Blue Knights Picnic, Scottish Police College.

13 September: Emergency Services Show, Hullavington Airfield, Wiltshire.

19 September: North Wales Police Open Day, Colwyn Bay.

23-24 September: Emergency Services Show, NEC Birmingham.

9-11 October: Siblings Weekend.

16-18 October: Spouses' Weekend.

Kids zip off to raise more COPS cash

CHILDREN of fallen officers will take on the largest zip wire in Europe in their latest efforts to raise vital funds for the charity.

In the next ‘Kids Of COPS’ challenge, the group will tackle the zip wire in Snowdonia – soaring down the hills at speeds up to 100mph.

The mile-long zip wire – known as Velocity – has been described as “the nearest thing to flying” and is said to be the fastest of its kind in the world.

The challenge is being organised by Vicky Moore, COPS fundraiser, who said: “I am really excited to be doing something again with more Kids Of COPS.

“A couple of people had approached me with ideas for the challenge to follow on from the skydive. This was one of them and I thought it looked challenging enough. I’ve done much smaller zip wires but nothing to this distance or speed before.”

The last event organised by Vicky was a sponsored skydive in October in which close to £10,000 was raised for COPS.

The zip wire event is open to anyone over the age of 18 whose



Kids of COPS are planning a zip wire challenge following their charity skydive.

mother or father has been killed on duty with one of the UK’s police forces. COPS will pay for the challenge for each person willing to raise £100 or more in sponsorship.

The challenge will take place on the new COPS Adult Children’s weekend, which the charity will finance, covering overnight accommodation.

Any qualifying ‘adult child’ may

attend the weekend even if they do not undertake the zip wire challenge.

The weekend will probably take place in late September or early October, and more details will be made available at a later date.

Vicky’s family was one of the first to attend the COPS annual weekend. Her father, PC Bryan Moore, was killed on duty by a drunk driver in 2002.

Police widow pensions top of agenda when COPS met SNP



Christine Fulton, left, met Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon in April to discuss pensions for police widows.

CARE of Police Survivors has met the Scottish First Minister to discuss the future of pensions for police widows and widowers.

Christine Fulton, COPS Co-founder, met Nicola Sturgeon in April to discuss the historical injustice of bereaved partners losing their pensions if they go on to remarry or cohabit.

However, this may change after Chancellor George Osborne used his final budget of the last Parliament to announce the changes to the system.

The statement read: "On 1 April 2015, the Government will be introducing new and reformed public service pension schemes. All these new schemes will allow widows, widowers and civil partners across the public sector workforces to retain survivor benefits if they remarry, cohabit or form a civil partnership."

Ms Sturgeon, who chatted to Christine at the Scottish Police Federation conference, said she fully supported the COPS cause, but any

changes would have to go through the Scottish Parliament.

Mrs Fulton said: "The situation is still unclear. Nicola Sturgeon was fully aware of what has happened in Northern Ireland [where widows' pensions were reinstated after remarriage] and England and Wales and what the rest of us are doing, but she said she was waiting to see what England and Wales would do.

"She was fully supportive that the pensions will go through in Scotland but we do not know to what degree and when, until we know what comes out of England and Wales. I am really pleased that she was genuinely interested."

The reinstatement of widows' pensions has taken years of campaigning by COPS. However the Treasury has confirmed the move is not retrospective.

Mrs Fulton added: "I am so pleased with how far it has come in recent months. It really came on leaps and bounds. We were stuck for a long



time. They just kept saying that it couldn't be done, and then Northern Ireland changed it and it showed that it could be done. Then the Government changed it for the Armed forces. Once that happened we really went from strength to strength."

■ Labour's Madeleine Moon (pictured above) showed her support for the campaign on Twitter after meeting police widows at Parliament.

Police Unity Tour 2015 is biggest ever

APPROXIMATELY 120 bike riders from London and the South East have signed up for this year's UK Police Unity Tour.

Cyclists will ride to the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire under the slogan "we ride for those who died". This year's event promises to be bigger than ever as officers join from around the country.

The London and South East Unity Tour will leaving New Scotland Yard on Friday 24 July to arrive at the arboretum two days



The Police Unity Tour is leaving from different locations this year.

later. Each participant will ride in memory of a fallen officer, with memorial wristbands being presented to their family members on arrival.

Riders will also be leaving from Norfolk and Leicestershire as groups leave from different locations in the country for the first time. Police Scotland is also organising a tour, but due to the distance it is likely to be held in Scotland beforehand.

Riders are a mixture of serving officers, from Chief Constable downwards. Survivors will also be taking part in the ride.

This year the tour will be sponsored by Capita, Police Mutual, ISM saddles, London Midland Trains, Coca-Cola and Sainsbury's supermarkets.

Donations can be made at www.justgiving.com/rob-atkin1. To find out more, go to <http://www.ukpoliceunitytour.org/home.html>.



Hairy hero

A YOUNG man is not shaving or cutting his hair for a year in aid of COPS. Stephen Wilkinson (pictured left on day one and right on day 116) says on his fundraising page: "They receive no funding from the Government. They do amazing work, being there for and supporting grieving families." Find him on www.facebook.com/copsfundraiser

Bye Georgine

COPS Trustees have bade farewell to Georgine Whigham, who retired from the Board in March at the end of her two-year term of office. Georgine's insight as a survivor and her experience from years of successful fundraising for COPS will be difficult to replace on the Board. Jan Berry, Chair of Trustees, said: "Georgine always went the extra mile and will be greatly missed at Trustee meetings."

Sing along

AVON and Somerset Police Choir raised £500 for Care of Police Survivors in memory of their fallen colleague PC Kevin Stoodley. A concert was dedicated to the memory of the popular officer, from Street, who died while performing his duties in Frome at the age of 40. The group sang at St Thomas's Church Wells with Penzance Ladies Orpheus Choir.

On the road

MANY congratulations to twins George and Amy Syder, who have passed their driving test after having lessons paid for by the Jim McNulty Memorial fund. Their father was DC Nigel Syder, of the Metropolitan Police, who died following a motorcycle accident while on surveillance duty in 2002.

COPS shop

A PAIR of beautifully designed cufflinks and a new gym towel have been added to the selection of products in the online Care of Police Survivors shop. They join a number of existing products if you'd like to treat yourself, or are looking for a gift. To buy, go to: <http://ukcops.org/cops-shop.php>

Donor record

RECORD-BREAKING donations have been handed out to worthwhile causes after the ninth annual Emergency Services Show brought in more than £30,000. This included £2,500 to Care of Police Survivors. Donations were made to groups that support the work of the services.

Tree honours memory of first GMP officer who died on duty

THE widow of PC Ian Rodgers – the first Greater Manchester Police officer killed on duty – has spoken of planting a flowering cherry tree in his memory.

A dedication service was held in the force's memorial garden at the Sedgley Park Centre in Manchester earlier this year.

His widow, Pauline Rodgers, and adult sons Daniel and Andy attended the ceremony alongside Deputy Chief Constable Ian Hopkins and GMP Federation Chairman Ian Hanson.

PC Rodgers died while on duty in Stockport in 1975, a year after the formation of GMP. He was struck by a train while responding to a call that young children were playing on a railway track.

Pauline said her husband would have known of the dangers involved in searching the track, but he was also fully aware that it was "no playground for young children".

PC Rodgers' friends and retired colleagues were also present at the ceremony earlier this year.

"Dan and Andy enjoyed listening to their stories and memories of their dad and for me it was great to be called 'Polly' again," said Pauline.

"[Reverend] Charles Nevin led a poignant service and Dan spoke movingly of growing up with the legacy of his dad."



Pauline Rodgers, pictured centre with her sons Daniel and Andy, planted a cherry tree in memory of her husband Ian, who died on duty in 1975.

Pauline said it was not until 2012 that she found and joined Care of Police Survivors after many years of being stuck in the denial stage of grief, unable to acknowledge or accept that her husband had been killed in the execution of his duty.

"After a long, difficult course of intense bereavement therapy in 2008/9, eventually I was able to turn around and face what had happened in 1975.

"I visited the site of the accident, witnessing the trains passing by

and discovered where Ian's ashes were scattered. The grief process could restart."

The memorial has now become a focal point for the family.

"This tree planted in Ian's memory is symbolic to us of hope for the future, of growth and new life," said Pauline.

"The love, warmth and support of those at the dedication service held us close and as a family we now have a personal meaningful memorial to our hero, Ian."

Met remembers shot PC 40 years on

A METROPOLITAN Police officer has been remembered in a memorial service 40 years after he was killed.

In recognition of PC Stephen Tibble's bravery, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe joined officers and the victim's friends and family on Charleville Road, Hammersmith – the spot where he was killed.

The Commissioner (pictured) said: "The anniversary of PC Tibble's murder will always remain a very sad day for the Met and a tragic event in policing history.

"Even though he was off duty, he saw an incident where the lives



of Londoners were at risk, and in trying to protect them, he made the ultimate sacrifice. He tried to stop a criminal running away from the police. Only 21 years old, he was shot dead in cold blood.

"Today, Met officers take the same risks on behalf of the community. Today we remember Stephen's courage and sacrifice.

"For families and loved ones, he is remembered every day. Through this service of remembrance, we will ensure that his memory lives on within the Metropolitan Police."

Hammersmith and Fulham Borough Commander Ch Supt Gideon Springer said: "It was a real honour to meet the family of PC Tibble, a heroic officer who demonstrated the ultimate act of bravery and dedication all those years ago."

In June 1976, PC Tibble was posthumously awarded the Queen's Police Medal for gallantry.

The memorial plaque for PC Tibble was erected in 1992 at the spot where he was killed.



Knights of the road

Geoff Martin, from the Blue Knights Motorcycle Club, admits to a lump in his throat during the group's annual Lawride to support COPS at the annual Service of Remembrance

You are President of the England XI chapter of the Blue Knights Motorcycle Club. Please tell us more.
The England XI chapter covers Staffordshire and West Midlands. Our chapter consists of serving and retired police and prison officers, and my role is to oversee the club activities. We ride a variety of machinery and can usually be seen in colours supporting local charity events including our Lawride event at the Service of Remembrance in support of Care of Police Survivors. I organise the ride and have done since it was established in 1995.

How did you get involved in the Blue Knights and why?
I have always loved bikes and heard about the Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club. I enquired about it because as a police-oriented club it appealed to me. I first joined England I, which is the Merseyside area in 1998. I then broke away and formed England XI in 2000.

Why is the Blue Knights an important organisation?
The original Blue Knights was formed

in 1974 by a small group of police officers in Maine, USA. They wanted to stop the bad image that people had about motorcyclists because of the likes of the Hells Angels and other gangs.
The Blue Knights is a family club – the biggest law enforcement club in the world. We have brothers and sisters in so many countries – I can't list them all off the top of my head – and it is still growing.

Why is it important that the Blue Knights supports COPS?
We have supported COPS as a charity from the start. It is obviously very close to our hearts because we are mostly serving or retired police officers and it is the main cause we support. But Chapters also do work for a variety of local charities in their own area.

How often do you get out on your bike?
I get out on my bike as often as work permits, the best thing about biking is the feeling of freedom. The best area to explore? Anywhere in the wild with good twisty roads.

The service recently lost a motorcycle officer in Humberside. How will that have affected PC Russ Wylie's colleagues on the traffic team?
Any loss of a colleague in any role in the service is devastating. But the loss of a motorcycle officer really is tough.
His mates on the team would have known they had to do him proud and escort his funeral. I know that there would have been be many tears inside their helmets on the day.

Please tell us a little about your role with the police.
I served as a Police Constable in Staffordshire Police and retired from the force in 2011, having served on incident response vehicles, tactical support group, firearms, armed response, traffic and the motorbike section.

Since I retired I have been working as a delivery driver for Iceland – the frozen food company, not the country!
I have a great many memories from the police obviously. But passing my Rifleman course as a Master Sniper was good! It was a great course.

What was it like working on the roads?
I don't know how to answer that really. It could go from the the sublime to the extreme. On one day you can be helping a stranded family get their car sorted and then in a high speed pursuit the next.
What might our readers not know about the Blue Knights?
Every Blue Knight has a huge lump in their throat and a tear in their eye when we hear the applause when we arrive at the Lawride.

Please tell us a bit more about your involvement in the Lawride.
My involvement in the Lawride is to organise the time and place of meeting – this year it will be held on 10 May – and to ensure we have a police escort. As President of the home chapter, I lead the ride.
The Blue Knights take part to show respect for fallen officers and show support to their survivors. The event has grown each year, with more and more bikes taking part. We also hold a camping party on the weekend of the Lawride.

Look forward to remembering together

AS WE approach the summer let's hope it's a good one, particularly for the COPS Alternative Weekend in early June and the Survivors' Weekend, incorporating the annual Service of Remembrance, in late July, when we remember those who brought us all together.

This year will be our last based in Hinckley as, for the next two years at least, we shall be heading over to Drayton Manor, a move that will, I'm sure, prove very popular with the very youngest of our survivors – and perhaps some of the older ones too.

If you haven't yet returned your application form for this year's event, please do so as soon as possible to help us as we finalise details of the event.

Once again the Blue Knights and the Police Unity Tour will ride in to the arboretum before the service, so please welcome them and show them our appreciation for the mag-



nificent fundraising both groups do for COPS.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will have seen the announcement about the appointment of our Head of Operations, who will be attending the Survivors' Weekend. Please feel free to introduce yourself and help make Richard very welcome to COPS.

Throughout the summer, and

indeed the autumn and winter, COPS will be represented at many events across the UK, ranging from Portsmouth on the south coast, through Colwyn Bay in North Wales to the Scottish Police College in Tulliallan.

Any offers of help from local survivors, volunteers and supporters will always be welcome, so if we are in your area, please do get in

touch. A list of our upcoming events is always available on our website: www.ukcops.org.

Wasn't it wonderful to see how much the younger children enjoyed their long weekend in Disneyland, Paris? See our report and pictures on page three. COPS Chairman of the board of trustees, Jan Berry, and I waved them off from St Pancras International railway station in London and it was a real pleasure to see the joy of anticipation on their faces. It will be hard to match that next year but we shall do our very best.

You will also have seen in this newsletter some details of the next challenge facing our older 'children' – a high-speed ride on a zipwire in Snowdonia.

I hope you all have a great summer and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in July.

Denis Gunn is President of Care of Police Survivors

Goodbye to Office Manager Abbie

CARE of Police Survivors Office Manager Abbie Clark is moving on to pastures new to pursue a change of career.

Abbie starting working for the charity in 2009, having previously helped out in the background as a volunteer.

During her service, Abbie has been the Charity's rock in organising and co-ordinating the annual Survivors' weekend.

She has also organised many survivor events and managed the COPS office.

Over the years, she has given many additional hours to COPS and

given considerable support to Survivors. She will be greatly missed by everyone at COPS.

As is typical of Abbie, she has offered to continue to help until a replacement is found, and she will always remain a great friend of COPS.

Sarah Williams, our Finance Administrator, will run the office where possible, but there will be times when the best means of contacting COPS will be by email at admin@ukcops.org.

Abbie is pictured at the National Police Memorial Day in York in 2012.



COPS bids farewell to Abbie Clark.



Charity talks

COPS joined police charities across the UK at a meeting at the Police Federation of England and Wales headquarters. Police minister (at the time of writing) Mike Penning joined Federation chairman Steve White, and Denis Gunn and Jan Berry from COPS with other charity representatives. The role of charities in supporting the police family was discussed.

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Rebuilding shattered lives

COPS aims to provide Survivors with the level of understanding and care that is required to help them rebuild their lives.

Registered Charity no:
1101478

Scottish Charity no: SC038541

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