



## Remembering fallen colleagues



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## A MUCH-LOVED MONARCH



**By Tony Wetton, chair of Derbyshire Police Federation**

It is only right that I begin this message by paying tribute to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Everyone at Derbyshire Police Federation was deeply saddened by the Queen's death and as servants of the Crown we sent our deepest condolences to the Royal Family on behalf of our members.

She was a much-loved and well-respected monarch and today's police officers have only ever known service under her long and distinguished reign. We swear allegiance to the Crown when we take our oath and that is, and always has been, a hugely significant part in the process of becoming a police officer.

One of the Queen's last duties was to accept Boris Johnson's resignation and invite Liz Truss to form a Government as the country's new Prime Minister.

No sooner had she taken office than the nation went into mourning so in a sense the new administration is still in its early days.

But we are nevertheless keen to make sure Ms Truss and her new Home Secretary, Suella Braverman, are left in no doubt about our position.

The Police Federation has written to both to highlight our concerns over pay and working conditions and the fact that this year's pay rise has still left many of our members struggling to pay the bills.

Please remember we are here for you if you have any concerns whatsoever.

### Contact the Federation office

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You can also contact Jo and Pete by emailing [derbyshire@polfed.org](mailto:derbyshire@polfed.org)

Details for the branch officials and workplace reps can be found on our [Meet the team page](#).

# PAY AND MORALE: LET YOUR VIEWS BE KNOWN

**D**erbyshire Police Federation is urging members to make their views clear in this year's pay and morale survey.

This year's survey was launched on Monday 5 September and aims to gain views from frontline officers on a range of key issues.

The results are then used to support Police Federation of England and Wales (PFEW) campaign for fairer pay and an independent pay mechanism.

The findings will also enable the Federation to highlight areas where change is needed and support its drive to improve working conditions for officers.

And for the first time, this year's survey will also gather evidence on demand, capacity and welfare issues to give the Government, key stakeholders and members of the public a comprehensive insight into the realities of policing.

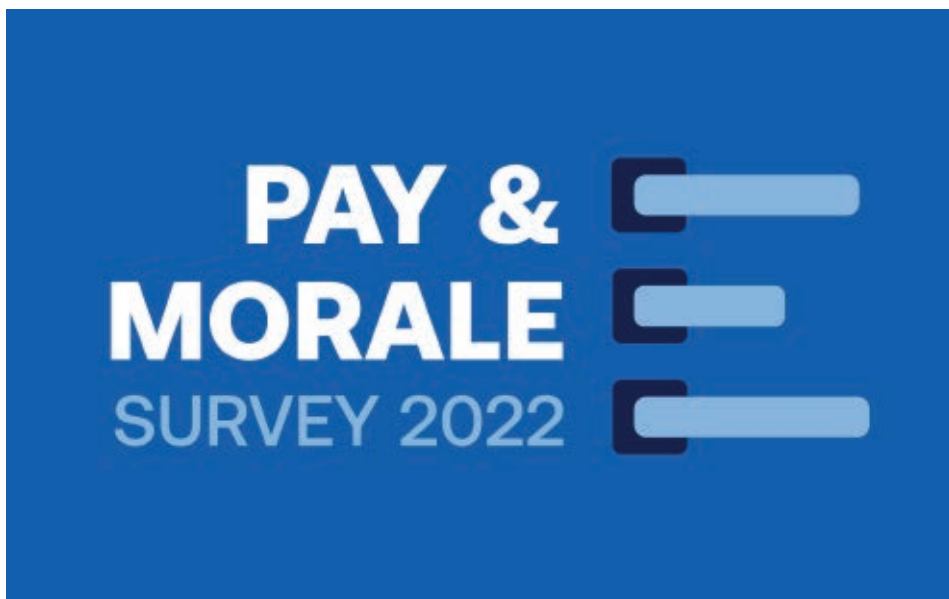
Derbyshire branch chair Tony Wetton said: "The pay and morale survey is really important and comes at a time when officers are facing spiralling energy bills, rising food costs and increases in interest rates.

"It's vital that we understand the feelings of our brave men and women on the frontline so that we can best represent you – please make your views known."

"This year's survey is particularly important for us given that last year Derbyshire officers collectively disclosed the worst results in the country in terms of their own personal morale and also of the general morale in the Force.

"We as a Federation have been working

**“It's vital that we understand the feelings of our brave men and women on the frontline so that we can best represent you – please make your views known.”**



hard with the Force to address some of the issues that we think were behind those results and it's important to see if and how that has affected the morale of Derbyshire officers. Hopefully some of the benefits of Op Resolve are getting through and being felt by frontline officers.

"Although the pay rise for 2022 was disappointing, it was a step forward in terms of the Government accepting in full the recommendations of the pay review body. The results of this survey are invaluable in informing PFEW's position and strategy in terms of fighting for fair pay and conditions for police officers.

"This year more than ever it's so

important that we all take the opportunity to say how we all feel about the job. I hope that every Derbyshire constable, sergeant, inspector and chief inspector gives their views this year and we get a genuine picture of how morale is in the Force."

National Federation chair Steve Hartshorn said: "Survey fatigue is understandable, this is why we've taken measures to amalgamate the pay and conditions surveys, but your opinion matters to us, and by taking the time to fill in this year's pay and morale survey, you can help us make a difference and fight for what you need, because together our voices are stronger and more impactful."

The survey is conducted by PFEW's in-house research department and is the only consistent national survey that represents members' attitudes to pay and conditions. The survey closes on 17 October.

## PAY BODY MUST BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE INDEPENDENTLY, SAYS FED CHAIR

Derbyshire Police Federation chair Tony Wetton says the independence of the system that sets officers' salaries must be respected by the Government.

Tony said that the Police Remuneration Review Body (PRRB) should not be influenced by Government when it sets pay awards in the face of a cost of living crisis.

"As a police service, we don't feel valued by this Government, which has overseen a real terms pay cut for officers of 20 per cent over the last decade – and that's before the current cost of living crisis which is having a huge impact on them and their families," Tony explained.

"The current system isn't working as the Government decides what the PRRB can

consider and, ultimately, what officers will receive. All we ask is that the Government respects PRRB's independence so that it is not restricted by what the Government says it can consider."

His comments were echoed by the chair of the Police Federation for England and Wales (PFEW), Steve Hartshorn, who has called for "a reset of relations with the Government".

The PFEW last year [withdrew its support and engagement with the PRRB](#), labelling the mechanism as "not fit for purpose".

Steve said: "The independence of the PRRB must be upheld and not influenced by the Government by way of a remit to enable

officers to have a fair pay mechanism, and the P-factor payment exclusive to policing must be included to ensure officers are paid fairly for the risks they take.

"We seek assurances from the Government that next year the PRRB will not be restrained by an unfair remit set by the Home Office, and that the unsustainable real terms pay cut is addressed to ensure our members can afford to do the job they signed up for.

"We asked for a reset of relations with the Government, which is needed to ensure that the voice of our members is heard loud and clear at all levels of the Government every time decisions are made affecting their day-to-day lives."

# FEDERATION SUPPORTS PCC'S BID TO RETAIN IPLDP

**D**erbyshire Police Federation has welcomed calls by the county's Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to ensure a non-degree entrance route is kept open for new recruits.

PCC Angelique Foster said police forces should be able to recruit from the widest pool of talent to serve their communities and insisted this should include those who do not hold a degree or do not want to study for one.

She has now written to the Home Office amid reports it plans to close the Initial Police Learning and Development Programme (IPLDP) recruitment route from next April following requests from the College of Policing.

The Force recently opened-up recruitment for non-degree holders to accelerate its recruitment efforts as part of the Government's uplift programme.

Ms Foster said: "The response to the recent recruitment round using this traditional entry route was very successful, with a high number of applicants.

"This illustrates that policing is a career of choice for non-degree holders, and importantly it enables the Force to select candidates with a wider variety of experiences and skills."

In her letter to the policing minister, the PCC said: "The Chief Constable and I strongly believe that this route serves to provide an entry-point for members of the public who may not hold or want to hold a degree but would nevertheless possess the right skills and aptitude to serve their communities.

"I am disappointed to see that steps have been taken by the Government to close the use of this entry route from April 2023 and I would ask that you reconsider this stance. I do not believe the use of IPLDP alongside other degree-linked routes impairs our ability to deliver a professionalised policing service, in fact it arguably ensures policing better reflects



*Derbyshire PCC Angelique Foster.*

the communities it serves.

"During 2022/23 Derbyshire intends to make use of IPLDP as well as the other entry routes to give as many candidates as possible the opportunity to become a police officer and help keep their communities safe."

Ms Foster's intervention was welcomed by Derbyshire Police Federation chair Tony Wetton who has long argued against restricting police recruitment to degree holders.

Tony said: "Police forces should be representative of the communities they serve so recruits should be drawn from as wide a pool as possible.

"Some of the greatest skills you need as a police officer are not necessarily academic.

"The attributes required in a police officer are honesty, bravery, common sense and an ability to communicate with people from all walks of life, along with an

inquisitive mind. While achieving a degree is a very good thing and is to be applauded and encouraged - lots of my colleagues hold impressive degree qualifications - I cannot see how it would be anything other than unsustainable and harmful to policing and communities to prevent anyone with those attributes from becoming a police officer on the grounds that they haven't studied to degree level.

"I am certainly not convinced that those vital life skills can be taught through a university course. For this reason, among others, I have always backed the Police Federation position that the requirement for recruits to have a degree is ill-conceived, unnecessary, and frankly likely to damage policing.

"You only have to look at the current system for Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship recruitment (PCDA) to see the huge amount of pressure put on young officers who are trying to balance their studies with learning on the job.

"The Government, the College of Policing and police chiefs need to urgently rethink this change to legislation and step back from it before it's too late."

**“ During 2022/23 Derbyshire intends to make use of IPLDP as well as the other entry routes to give as many candidates as possible the opportunity to become a police officer and help keep their communities safe.**



# CHAIR WELCOMES SPECIALS INTO THE FEDERATION

**D**erbyshire Police Federation has welcomed Special Constables as members following a change in the law.

As part of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022, which came into effect in July, volunteer officers will be able to join the Federation and receive the same representation and legal protections as regular officers.

Derbyshire branch chair Tony Wetton said: "I am delighted to be able to welcome Special Constables into the Federation for the first time. Specials have a long and proud history, dating back to 1831, of volunteering their time to assist police officers and keep the public safe.

"In 2020, they contributed an incredible three million hours to UK policing nationally. To us they are more than volunteers, they are colleagues. They face the same risks and dangers as regular officers but until now they were not eligible to receive the same support for their welfare and legal protection."

Tony added: "This is, of course, excellent news for Special Constables. I would definitely urge any Special colleague in Derbyshire to speak to the branch and find out how membership can help them. All Specials will be written to soon to explain their options.

"In Derbyshire we have had an

arrangement with the Force for a few years that Derbyshire Police Federation would provide support and representation - short of legal representation - for Special Constabulary colleagues, but this important change will mean that subscribing Specials will soon receive the same excellent service enjoyed by regular colleagues."

The change in the law is a direct result of the Police Federation of England and Wales lobbying of Government. It will also create an opportunity for Specials to take up Taser training, if approved by the Chief Constable.

Federation national chair Steve Hartshorn said: "Special Constables bring their own unique set of life skills into policing. It is only right that they have the same protection, support and experience as their full-time colleagues when they need it."

And Dave Bamber from the National Board added: "Specials need support in the workplace to ensure they are treated fairly. From a Special Constabulary point of view, the law change is a really big indication of acceptance within the police family and the Federation wishes to embrace them as well."

Along with the work already carried out by the Police Federation of England and Wales Specials Working Group, a Branch Pilot Group has been established to ensure all Federation branches are supported regarding the joining process and all other aspects of this change.

## FREE FINANCIAL RESILIENCE WEBINAR

Financial resilience is the ability to withstand life shock events that impact your income. It has never been more important to be financially prepared as the ongoing impact of the rising cost of living crisis continues to affect everyone's finances.

Mark Wright, Police Mutual's financial wellbeing consultant, will share hints and tips to help people feel confident about making good financial choices, including some specific to the police family, in a free webinar, available at a time to suit you.

The webinar is split into sections and covers:

- Understanding financial resilience
- Income, expenditure and budgeting
- Your credit profile
- Bank accounts and savings
- Debt management and support.

You can [view the webinar](#) at any time, just complete the personal details section and then select the "submit" button

The webinar page also has a useful links section to guide people to some of the resources and tools discussed.

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- Saved time and effort
- Access to exclusive products not available on the High Street.

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# REVIEW OF DISCLOSURE FAILS TO ADDRESS ISSUES, SAYS NATIONAL DETECTIVES' FORUM

The Police Federation of England and Wales says "officers are struggling under an impossible workload" created by the Crown Prosecution Service's (CPS) disclosure guidelines.

A review of the guidelines by the Attorney General earlier this year failed to address their shortcomings, said Ben Hudson, chair of the Police Federation National Detectives' Forum (PFNDF).

Ben, who is also secretary of Suffolk Police Federation, said the review was disappointing and that the CPS guidance, introduced last year and known as DG6, is having a huge impact on officers and staff.



He said: "We appreciate that the Attorney General's Office Annual Review of Disclosure has been sensitive towards the plight of police officers with regards to the redaction of case material, which is singularly responsible for overburdening case workloads.

"Though the review identifies several ambiguities, including adherence to data protection laws, it does not provide any major action points to redress the shortcomings.

"Instead, it seeks to blame our members' lack of understanding about the vital role disclosure of case material plays in the criminal justice system. It puts the onus on police forces to make every effort to alter the current culture around disclosure procedures.

"The review accepts that 'strictly speaking' redaction and data protection are not direct aspects of CPS Disclosure Guidance. However, in the absence of a uniform code and lack of specific guidance, police officers, investigative officers, detectives and specialist disclosure experts are compelled to devote significant time and



*Ben Hudson, chair of the Police Federation National Detectives' Forum*

resources to the redaction of case material to ensure that data protection laws are adhered to, and personal information is not revealed, even between collaborating agencies."

The Federation says it's also problematic the review merely suggests that a single source of authoritative guidance for the redaction of case material passed to the CPS is "preferable" but does not demand it despite identifying an acute need for one.

Commenting on one of the review's key findings that "the police do not always apply their discretion when offering information for disclosure under the rebuttable presumption" leading to needless redaction obligations, Ben said: "The remit of rebuttable presumption is too wide and

impractical for police officers to comply with and to stand the test of disclosure they inadvertently end up redacting enormous volume of case material. This ultimately creates a burden on the CPS and justice delivery system as well as the officers themselves struggling under an impossible workload."

The Federation has launched a targeted campaign to appeal to the Government to make amendments to the Data Protection Act to simplify the redaction obligations placed on police officers.

It also calls on the National Police Chiefs' Council, the College of Policing and the CPS to work with the Federation to ensure all members receive nationally agreed face-to-face training on disclosure procedures.



# GEOFF JOINS SPECIAL BRANCH

**D**erbyshire PC Geoff Marshall proved he had a head for heights when he took part in a tree-climbing course designed for officers policing protests.

Geoff and four fellow students underwent the specialist training at a centre near Matlock under the watchful eye of a professional arborist.

The course covered every aspect of tree-climbing and dealing with tree-top protests and, although it sounds like every schoolboy's dream, it was run on very serious lines and dealt with the subject in a professional manner. Geoff hopes to achieve a City and Guilds certificate to show for it.

He said: "The instructor was extremely knowledgeable and we basically spent the week tree-climbing with him.

"There is an awful lot more to it than you'd think - looking for the right points to fasten on to, being roped onto trees, moving safely within a large tree without coming down and all sorts of other things.

"Treetop protests by their very nature can be potentially dangerous for both the police and the protesters which is the reason we are taking this type of training seriously.

"It was extremely hard work but really enjoyable."

Geoff is a long-serving member of the Derbyshire Police uniformed task force which is often deployed to protests.

**“ Treetop protests by their very nature can be potentially dangerous for both the police and the protesters which is the reason we are taking this type of training seriously.**

He said: "We had quite a few incidents at protests when fracking was in the headlines with people locking-on to gates and things like that and there was another one where we had someone up a bamboo tripod."

In recent years there have been high-profile tree-top protests in Warwickshire with activists trying to stop contractors clearing woodlands to make way for the HS2 rail link and also in Lancashire where locals

scaled trees that were due to be felled as part of the expansion of a sports club.

The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act which was passed earlier this year will have an impact on the way officers are deployed at demonstrations and deal with protesters.

Chief Constables can now put more conditions on static protests, such as those organised by groups like Extinction Rebellion and Insulate Britain where roads and bridges are occupied.

The new law also includes an offence of "intentionally or recklessly causing public nuisance" which is designed to stop people occupying public spaces, hanging off bridges or employing other similar tactics.

Geoff said the protest movement seemed to have grown in recent years with activists going to ever more elaborate - and potentially dangerous - lengths to try to get their messages across.

He said: "It is something that is obviously ongoing and I think nationally it could become a huge problem so we are upskilling to make sure we have everything in place."

Deputy Chief Constable Kate Meynell (second from left) and Derbyshire Police Federation chair Tony Wetton (fourth from left) with the families of fallen officers and cyclists from the Derbyshire contingent of the Police Unity Tour.



# COPS SERVICE HONOURS FALLEN COLLEAGUES

A team of Derbyshire officers and staff cycled an incredible 180 miles to Staffordshire for the opening of a service of remembrance for those who have died in service.

They were among 300 riders from across the UK, including police and military personnel, who pedalled to the National Memorial Arboretum to attend the Care of Police Survivors (COPS) annual service on Sunday 21 August.

COPS provides ongoing support to bereaved loved ones of fallen officers and put them in contact with other 'survivor' families so that can support one other and form bonds of friendship.

Tony Wetton, chair of Derbyshire Police Federation, who represented the branch at the service, said: "I'm hugely proud and grateful to our colleagues who took part in the ride and showed our Force in such a positive light. Their efforts, and those of the other riders, means such a lot to the families and reminds them that they are in our thoughts and that their loved ones, our fallen colleagues, are never forgotten."

The service at the NMA heard from COPS chief executive Tim Buckley and chair of trustees Sir Peter Fahy QPM. The West Midlands Brass Band played throughout the service and there were two songs from singer Diane Whyllie, as well as the laying of wreaths.

Gill Marshall, national president of COPS,



The Police Unity Tour cyclists ride into the National Memorial Arboretum.

spoke of the death of her husband Alan on duty in 2006 and quoted CS Lewis: "He wrote 'You too? I thought I was the only one.' This is how friendships are formed."

Her words emphasised the theme of the occasion, which was that families can come together and find strength and support in their shared experience.

One such survivor, Emma Fields, wife of South Yorkshire PC Dave Fields who was killed in a car crash on duty on Christmas Day in 2017, spoke movingly of the awful moment their festivities were interrupted by a knock at the door followed by terrible news.

She said: "We'd watched the kids open presents, had Christmas dinner together and I'd kissed him goodbye saying 'see you later'. Then I was a widow, feeling scared and wondering how my life could possibly continue without him."

In the dark days after the funeral, Emma received a letter from COPS, and was put in touch with Angela, a local 'survivor' who had been through the same experience years earlier, helping her to realise that life could continue.

Watch the service - [COPS Service of Remembrance | COPS UK \(ukcops.org\)](https://www.ukcops.org)



# ANNIVERSARY SERVICE AT UK POLICE MEMORIAL



Wendy Stevenson meets then Home Secretary Priti Patel at the service.

Then Home Secretary Priti Patel joined the families of fallen officers at a special service marking the first anniversary of the dedication of the new UK Police Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum in Alrewas, Staffordshire.

Among those she met during the event, which was attended by more than 200 invited guests, was Wendy Stevenson, whose husband Bruce, died on 7 January 2013 after collapsing at Cotton Lane Police Station.

"It was good to be able to attend this service and to see that Bruce, and other officers who have died while on duty, are not forgotten by the police service," says Wendy.

"The new memorial is a fitting tribute to fallen officers and provides a peaceful place where we as a family can reflect. By attending this service, and others organised by the charity Care of Police Survivors, I can meet up with other families who can fully understand my family's loss."

Among the other invited guests was Derbyshire Police Federation chair Tony Wetton.

"I am impressed by the new memorial and its setting within the arboretum," says Tony, "It is vitally important that we remember those who have given their lives while serving their communities and this



Guests gathered at the service.

memorial provides a focus for that.

"The service was attended by families of fallen officers, chief officers, Police and Crime Commissioners, politicians and Federation representatives and I was honoured to represent Derbyshire Police Federation and its members.

The new memorial was dedicated in July last year by HRH The Prince of Wales.

Among the families attending this year's service, which was led by Canon David Wilbraham, the national police chaplain, was the son of Special Police Constable Ralph Corfield, also called Ralph, from Birmingham City Police (now part of West Midlands Police). SPC Corfield was killed on 28 July

1942, exactly 80 years to the day of the anniversary event, during an enemy air raid while helping to deal with the aftermath of an earlier bomb blast.

This year also marks the 10th anniversary of the murders of PCs Fiona Bone and Nicola Hughes, killed in Manchester in September 2012. Their fathers, Paul Bone and Bryn Hughes, gave a reading during the service as did Denis Gunn, the father of Richard Gunn who was killed in Woking in 2004.

As part of the wreath-laying, a special floral tribute was laid by a representative from the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) George Cross Foundation. This year marks the centenary of the establishment of the RUC. A total of 314 members of the RUC were killed in terrorist attacks in Northern Ireland, 302 of them between 1969 and 1998 representing the biggest loss of life of any UK police force.

Since the memorial was dedicated last July, more than 300,000 people have visited the 40-foot iconic tribute at the arboretum. The bronze memorial designed in the shape of an open doorway signifies a threshold that police officers pass through to the "dangerous places" but from which some never return.

Speaking at the dedication ceremony last year, HRH The Prince of Wales said: "On behalf of a grateful nation, I want to express my immense gratitude for the courage and sacrifice of those who have laid down their lives to keep us safe and protect us from harm, remember their loved ones who mourn and pay tribute to those who continue to serve to safeguard our freedoms."

Martin Hewitt, chair of the Police Arboretum Memorial Trust who addressed the service and led the reflection, said: "This memorial is a tribute to all those who have dedicated their lives to policing. Every day our officers and staff go out to police our cities, towns and villages not knowing the dangers they will face. They often put themselves in harm's way to protect us and our property, and safeguard our freedoms. Sadly for some, they pay with their lives."



Floral tributes left at the foot of the memorial.

# BRANCH CHAIR ATTENDS NATIONAL POLICE MEMORIAL DAY

**D**erbyshire Police Federation chair Tony Wetton joined the policing family in remembering officers who gave their lives in service at the National Police Memorial Day.

The families, friends and colleagues of fallen officers joined police chiefs, officers and politicians for an emotional service at Belfast's Waterfront Hall on Sunday 25 September attended by around 2,000 people.

"The memorial day service is always incredibly moving and gives police officers the opportunity to stand shoulder to shoulder with the families of fallen officers to show them that their loved one is not forgotten and that we recognise their sacrifice," says Tony.

Guests at the service included Home Secretary Suella Braverman who gave a reading during the service.

She said: "To all the officers who lost their lives while working to keep us safe, we thank you and we honour you. Their bravery and commitment to their duty was unfaltering - society owes them and their loved ones a debt we cannot repay, but it is

one we will not forget.

"As Home Secretary I make a promise to give police the powers and tools they need to do their jobs safely."

During the service, candles were lit by relatives in remembrance of officers throughout the country who have lost their lives, one from each of the four nations of the United Kingdom.

Representing England was Kat Dumphreys, widow of PC Nick Dumphreys, who died on 26 January 2000 aged 47. He

sustained fatal injuries when the police vehicle he was driving was in a single vehicle collision on the M6.

Liam Kelly, chair of the Police Federation for Northern Ireland, read the names of officers who have lost their lives during the past year - PC Daniel Golding, Metropolitan Police, PC Craig Higgins, Greater Manchester Police, PC Alex Prentice, Northamptonshire Police, and PC Darryl Street, Civil Nuclear Constabulary.

He said: "National Police Memorial Day is

*Home Secretary Suella Braverman addresses the congregation.*



Photo courtesy of Anderson Photography

*Standards are lowered in the act of remembrance.*



an occasion to reflect and celebrate the best in policing not only in Northern Ireland but throughout the United Kingdom.

“Daily we see officers stepping up to the mark to safeguard communities and, sadly, on occasion, some officers are injured or lose their lives in the execution of their duties. This weekend, we say to assembled families that the police ‘family’ recognises, appreciates, and empathises with what you are experiencing and will never forget the sacrifices your loved ones made.”

There was silence as petals of remembrance, representing all who have lost their lives, descended from the gallery as the orchestra played Abide with me and the Last Post was sounded.

**“The memorial day service is always incredibly moving and gives police officers the opportunity to stand shoulder to shoulder with the families of fallen officers to show them that their loved one is not forgotten and that we recognise their sacrifice.”**

Canon David Wilbraham MBE, national police chaplain and co-ordinator of National Police Memorial Day, said: “This is the first time the National Police Memorial Day family has been able to gather in remembrance since the pandemic. Today we hold those lost in honour - their service and sacrifice will never be forgotten.”



*Paper petals fall to symbolise fallen colleagues.*

*Candles were lit in memory of officers from all four nations.*





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 Firm Reference Number 213301. For details visit <http://www.fca.org.uk>.



# BRYN PRESSES ON WITH ELIZABETH MEDAL CAMPAIGN

**C**ampaigners calling for fallen police officers to be honoured with a posthumous medal have vowed to continue with their fight for official recognition.

Bryn Hughes, whose daughter PC Nicola Hughes and her colleague Fiona Bone were murdered in a gun and grenade ambush while responding to a report of a burglary Manchester in September 2012, admitted the “wheels of bureaucracy were turning slowly” but insisted he would keep pressing ministers to give the initiative the green light.

Bryn was speaking at the National Police Memorial in Staffordshire, after an emotional meeting with fellow campaigners Adrian Hunt and David Taylor, whose police officer fathers were both killed while on duty.

He said: “We all share that common bond but we also share a common purpose. And when we met for the first time it was like we’d known each other for years. We share a lot more than we knew and it is coming to light that we are all in this together.”

Adrian’s father, Detective Sergeant Ross Hunt, died in 1983 after being stabbed by three members of the same family while investigating an attempted murder in the Scottish town of Larkhall and David’s father, PC George Taylor, was murdered by two escaped prisoners in Scotland in November 1976.

Both men had known one another when they served in the same division of Strathclyde Police.

Speaking on BBC Breakfast in August, Adrian said: “Without a doubt, the three of us and the wider police community are really proud of the legacy these officers have left.

“It is personal, it is public and at the end of the day we look back with fondness and with sadness but mainly with pride.”

David said the bonds between surviving family members of police officers killed on duty were incredibly strong.

He said: “Adrian and I had met before at different memorial services and had conversations but nothing in depth. It is almost unspoken, you understand one another and there is an affinity.

“But it was like a strange revelation



*Bryn Hughes chats to then Home Secretary Priti Patel at the UK Police Memorial.*

when the three of us sat down and had this open conversation which continued throughout the filming and into the evening.

“And you realise how much closer you are and you share that same love, pride and loss.”

When asked about the campaign and the importance of a special medal being created in memory of fallen officers, David said: “They chose to do the job they did knowing full well what could happen.

“However, their legacy was ours and we have memories but nothing tangible, nothing to show for the pride in what they did and their heroism.

“Even if it’s just to look at or to touch something that recognises what they did for the greater community.

“To be recognised for it is such an emotional feeling and it is well deserved without any shadow of a doubt.”

The medal would be similar in status to the Elizabeth Cross, which is awarded to the bereaved relatives of members of the British Armed Forces killed in military action.

Bryn said: “We have said all along that it’s that small emblem and it’s that recognition and you can take it home and look at it whenever you want and you can look at it with pride or look at it with sadness.

“But you have got it and it is yours and it is official recognition for the sacrifice they made.”

Adrian said he agreed with suggestions that members of the public appeared far more supportive of the campaign than the authorities.

“That stretches a long way back,” he said, “I was an 18-year-old police cadet at the time and asked if my father was entitled to or eligible for a bravery award and I was told by a senior officer that he didn’t qualify.

“So race forward 36 years and the same question came up and three chief constables supported it but when it went to the Cabinet Office they said anything beyond five years couldn’t be included or couldn’t be reviewed so we were back to stage one.”

The case was raised by MSP Graham Simpson in the Scottish Parliament and the campaign for a medal now has the support of the Scottish Government as well as the Mayor of Manchester.

The Police Federation, the Police Superintendents’ Association, the Prison Officers’ Association and 26 of the 43 Police and Crime Commissioners in England and Wales are also giving the campaign their full backing.

Bryn said: “We have got the campaign and we are supported massively by the Police Federation, we have got cross-party support from a number of MPs but it seems the wheels of bureaucracy are turning a little bit slower than we would like but we are going to keep on pushing.”

Photo courtesy of Anderson Photography

# FORMER OFFICER LAUNCHES £5,000 CAMPAIGN FOR UKRAINIAN FAMILIES

A former Derbyshire officer who recently travelled to Poland to deliver a van load of donations to Ukrainian families fleeing war is now aiming to raise a further £5,000 for refugees after he saw how desperate they are for food.

Chris Turner made the 1,900-mile round trip back in May, complete with his Transit van full of essential items, including clothes and toiletries, after being shocked by the media coverage showing families escaping the war zone in Ukraine.

Immediately after returning from his trip, having seen the despair of elderly relatives, mothers and their children needing store cupboard ingredients to make basic meals, Chris is now planning on travelling back over to Poland with a van full of essential food items for them.

"Seeing kids there who now have nothing, it was heartbreaking. I'm not ashamed to say I shed a tear," said 47-year-old Chris, who was in the Force for more than 12 years and retired after an injury on duty

“Seeing kids there who now have nothing, it was heartbreaking. I'm not ashamed to say I shed a tear.”

He added: "Those children were lining up to get such basic things, like spare clothes, toothpaste, toothbrushes - all struggling to survive. It was wrong.

"Witnessing that made me feel like I needed to do more, there's no excuse. I need to get food over to them, so for at least one night, they can go to bed with a belly full of food.

"You can't comprehend what they've been through," added father-of-two Chris. "Honestly, if I could take those families back with me, I would have.

"I feel awful that I can just pop to my fridge and get anything I want. These people have nothing."

Chris, who made the trip with a friend, admits the pair barely spoke for a few hours on the way home, having been hit so hard with what they saw.

"We were given some sweets, snacks and food before we left for the journey but it didn't feel right us having them, so we gave them to a family who we saw walking by.



Chris outside the Ukrainian Health Centre in Szczecin.



Unloading the van in Szczecin.

The genuine happiness on their faces, for something so small, they were eternally grateful - I will never forget that," he explained.

"I like to think that for just five minutes, as they ate those sweets, the children were just children again and they were able to forget what was going on back home.

"These children should be in the park playing. Instead, their lives have been ripped apart."

Having previously raised more than £1,500 for the Ukraine crisis, Chris has set himself an ambitious new target of £5,000,

which he is hoping local businesses will help him achieve.

"I want to go over there in September with a couple of vans rammed full of food," he explained.

"I appreciate so many of my friends and family have already donated to me, so I'm appealing to big corporations and businesses now. I already have a few supporting me by donating, but I'd love to get as many on board as possible."

To support Chris' campaign for Ukraine you can [email him](#) or visit his [fundraising page](#).

# LOOKING TO GET IN SHAPE?

Are you wanting to lose weight? Are you struggling to shift the pounds? Members are being invited to join an online forum, created especially for emergency workers wanting to live a healthier lifestyle.

Blue Light Lifestyle is a Facebook page that provides a safe and supportive network for police officers and other emergency workers who want to lose weight.

The page, which already has a network of nearly 600 people, was launched by a West Midlands Police Federation member who recognised the impact regular shift work is having on emergency workers and their health.

Traffic officer Ian Cook is using his degree in sports coaching to support members from all Federation branches across the country with their weight loss journey.

From recipes to motivational posts, as well as 'how-to' videos, polls, informative notes and encouragement to members, Ian keeps the page updated on a daily basis.

"So often people suffer in silence and people are scared or fear speaking out about their weight, especially to the likes of occupational health. The good thing about this group is it's more like speaking to your mate, who understands what you're going through," said father-of-two Ian.

As a result of the Blue Light Lifestyle group, Ian also offers one-to-one support for



Ian Cook.

those really struggling with their diet and weight. Capacity-dependent, Ian will create a paid-for 90-day plan for clients, with the main goal to change their attitude to food and exercise long-term.

Find out more about Blue Light Lifestyle and [join the Facebook group](#).

# HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR HEALTH AND BODY?

Free downloadable fact sheet now available



Do you know your blood pressure? Are you ready to understand your body and health better? A new fact sheet will help.

Police Mutual has created the leaflet in line with this year's 'Know Your Numbers Week', a campaign which ran from 6 to 11 September, and encourages people to get their blood pressure tested.

The guide helps readers take the first steps towards living a healthier lifestyle,

including a number of self-tests they can do at home.

The fact sheet aims to improve the physical and mental wellbeing of members, bursting with information on nutrition, exercise and boosting the immune system.

Police Mutual is a national organisation that provides both serving and retired members of the police family with financial and wellbeing support.

[Download the 'Know Your Numbers Week' fact sheet.](#)



# CHECK YOUR AIRWAVE RADIOS

Derbyshire Police Federation's health and safety lead is urging officers to check their Airwave radios and the device batteries at the start and end of their shift.

They are advised to look for wear and tear, parts missing, cracks, signs of impact, dirt and damage or dirt around the power contacts on both the battery and radio itself as this might impact the electrical power transfer and cause the device to fail.

Steve Reid explains: "Earlier this month an officer in Northamptonshire pressed his radio emergency button when he was attacked but it failed and only the officer's bravery and quick-thinking prevented them being more seriously injured or even killed.

"At an Airwave Police User Group during the last week, it was revealed that the initial findings of an investigation into this incident highlighted a need to ensure battery contact points are properly maintained and this is particularly important for the older radios.

"These kind of checks do not take long and officers need to get into the habit of making sure they examine their devices and the batteries when they start their shift and again when they finish. Doing so could really make a difference if officers find themselves in an emergency situation."

# PEER SUPPORT

Members from under-represented groups were invited to attend a programme which aims to support their growth and development within the Force.

Inspire is a national programme, launched by the College of Policing, designed to assist with retention and progression of people with protected characteristics and under-represented groups across the police service.

The programme, which took place on Wednesday 28 September, at Derbyshire Police headquarters in Ripley, was specifically aimed at those in the early stages of their career.

The one-day session, which involved self-directed learning, sharing experiences and peer support hopes to help develop self-awareness and confidence.

In turn, the programme should provide participants with knowledge, skills, confidence and tools required to encourage retention and progression.

Inspire is a fully inclusive programme and any police constable, police staff or volunteer from any under-represented group within the organisation can participate, especially those who aspire to develop their career in the future.



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