



BAILIWICK OF GUERNSEY LAW ENFORCEMENT

31st May 2019

It's National Specials weekend, and so we are turning our focus onto our Special Constables.

They're an invaluable part of the force; people whose full-time job isn't being a police officer, but someone who gives up their free time to come and assist.

Full training is provided, and we ask for eight hours minimum of your time per month. This weekend happens to be the launch of our latest recruitment campaign to increase the number of people we have as special constables.

Guernsey Police Head of Learning and Development, James Bell, said, "Being a Special Constable of the B Division means you will be an integral part of Guernsey Police, you will make a difference in reducing crime and make a real difference to your community....in the words of Sir Winston Churchill "*we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give*". Make a change – make a difference."

These are two of our Special Constables, who regularly assist with frontline policing duties. But, that isn't all a Special Constable can do. If you want to join the team, visit the Special Constables section of the website, and find out more in the careers section.

Lewis Winberg, 20.

Beau Sejour Lifeguard

"I've been a special for about six months. It has given me really great experience, and a lot more confidence in my day-to-day job as a lifeguard. I really enjoy the community engagement aspect, and we do everything "normal" police do. You do find yourself in tricky situations, but it makes you think outside the box. I find it really rewarding. I tend to volunteer for the weekend shifts, some of the more extreme jobs I have been to include domestics and fights in progress. It does give you a different perspective on the island. It has also made me more confident in higher stress situations that I find myself in through work, and just more confidence day to day.

"I really would recommend it to people, and I am hoping to join as a full time officer in the next intake."

Sarah Withers

Economic Crime Investigator

"I wanted to be part of policing and it was my line manager who encouraged me to join as a Special Constable; the training consisted of two weekends of classroom based teaching and two weekends of Officer Safety Training. I was sworn in as a Special in December 2018 and since then I have worked several shifts in the custody suite and others patrolling on Friday evenings; most recently I worked on Liberation Day and at the Muratti. I particularly enjoy the community aspect of policing and the face to face interaction with the public; however, there are many challenges to overcome, particularly dealing with people who have mental health issues.

“I also really enjoy learning from the officers – there are quite a lot of younger officers, but their maturity, knowledge and professionalism continues to impress me. Every officer I have worked with has been engaging and shared some of their experiences with me; I ask a lot of questions about the job and they have all been very supportive and patient with me.

“I find it very rewarding and it makes me feel proud to be part of Law Enforcement.”



Lewis Winberg



Sarah Withers