

*Cst. Dion
Arnouse on
duty in the
United
Kingdom.*



Community groups in these areas help people and businesses to look at new crime-prevention strategies. The Thames Force also attaches great importance to the cautioning of young first-time offenders.



This past January, it was the turn of a U.K. police officer to benefit from a Canadian experience. Sgt. Dick Auger, a 20-year member of the Thames Valley Police, worked with members of the Nanaimo Detachment in British Columbia. — Editor ❖

HOW DID THE CANADA – U.K. EXCHANGE COME ABOUT?

A/Commr. Cleve Cooper, the Force's special advisor on restorative justice, says representatives of Thames Valley and the RCMP met when they both visited Australia's New South Wales police force four years ago to see restorative justice at work. During his third trip to Thames Valley last year, Cooper says "the Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police suggested an exchange of officers to learn more from each other. So I discussed this with Commissioner Murray and he heartily endorsed the idea."

Cooper began looking for an exchange candidate in a Canadian detachment area that matched the size and demographics of Thames Valley — 5,700 square kilometres, 2.2 million people, and 4,000 police officers. "The only place like this that we police is BC," adds Cooper. That's where he found Cst. Dion Arnouse. His 10 years of community policing experience within the RCMP, plus his efforts to break down traditional barriers with youth and First Nations communities propelled Arnouse to the top of the list.

*By Rod Carleton, Restorative Justice,
and Joanna Kerr, "Pony Express" (April 2000)*