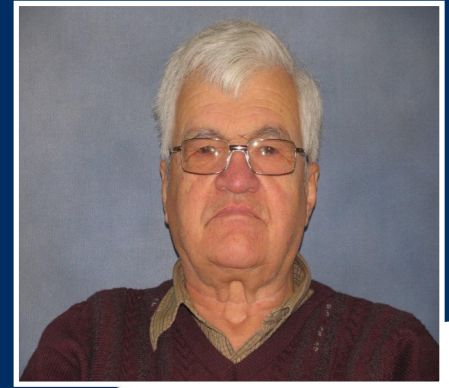




SUFFOLK
CONSTABULARY

POLICE SUPPORT VOLUNTEER

CASE STUDY



David Overton

David Overton is Suffolk Constabulary's longest serving Volunteer with 50 years currently under his belt. He started out as a Special Constable in 1967, serving until October 1998 and has thereafter remained as a Police Support Volunteer, assisting with the recruitment of new Special Constables in the Western area of the county. He is very much part of the team and a great help to potential new recruits who may need some assistance and guidance when completing the Specials application form.

When asked whether there are any skills or experiences that he has gained from volunteering, David said: "As a farmer, I could always find work that needed to be done on the farm and I would go days without actually leaving the property. I joined the Special Constabulary and found myself part of a team working in the community and helping resolve problems. This gave me a different outlook on life. The skills I

learnt in how to deal with people meant that I was able to take them home and this helped me with my own staff on the farm.

On my retirement from the Specials, I could see how important the Special Constabulary was and I wanted others to gain the experiences I had. To this end I now see those who I help recruit, turn into great officers and some that go on to be regular police officers. I find this very rewarding."

Due to the time he has spent volunteering for the Constabulary, it would be safe to say that David enjoys doing it..."As time goes by, whatever you do in life, there will be changes, but we can all offer some betterment to others from the skills we have. Volunteering is a way to pass these skills on".