

A Day in the Life

George Graham

Deputy Chief Constable



Why did you want to join the police?

Before joining the force, I worked in an office at Chapelcross and quickly realised that I wanted a job with more contact with people. I also wanted a challenging job that I felt was worthwhile doing and started looking at the police force as an option that would offer a range of opportunities.

What does your current job involve?

Like most jobs in the service, this role has a lot of variety. The main part of it for me is working with the Chief Constable to give leadership and direction to ensure that we provide a high quality of service to the people of Dumfries and Galloway. This means I work closely with lots of people both inside the organisation and with external partner agencies.

My job also involves working on the national scene to ensure that Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary is properly represented as plans and procedures for policing in Scotland are developed.

What is the best part of your job?

I really enjoy hearing that our officers and support staff have made a real difference in people's lives.

What is the worst part?

Administration and bureaucracy. I recognise they are a part of a modern police force but it can be very taxing.

Do you have any funny stories to tell?

Over the 24 years I have been in the job there have been many highs and lows but a good sense of humour keeps everyone going.

I certainly needed mine when I was dashing out to a job from Lochaberbriggs one day and jumped into the panda car that was parked facing the wall outside. I put the car into what I thought was reverse gear, looked over my shoulder, pressed the accelerator and drove straight into the wall. Thankfully there wasn't too much damage but I was extremely embarrassed afterwards.

Do you have any advice for anyone who wants to join the police with a view to becoming Deputy Chief Constable?

When I joined, I had no great ambition to reach high rank but I would encourage all young officers and potential officers to treat everyone with dignity and respect and to give their best at all times.