



## Welcome to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre e-bulletin ...

... designed to bring you the latest news on the work of the CEOP Centre.



# *E-Bulletin...*



## Technophobic parents – it's time to catch up

*New CEOP service to help protect your children online*

Children and young people love the internet and in many ways it has become their real world. But to what extent do parents understand what their children are doing online? And more importantly how safe are they?

The CEOP Centre has created a programme specifically for parents and carers. 'Purely for Parents' is the latest in a series of initiatives being rolled out under the ThinkUKnow educational programme. Its aim is simple: to bring parents and carers up to speed with how and why the internet is integral to children's lives and to help them understand how to make the online experience safer for children of all ages.

'Purely for Parents' aims to be delivered through specially designed parents evenings at schools, as well as online. The programme is made up of a number of easy to follow products all of which are available free to schools and can be downloaded from [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents)

Parents and carers can also register to receive automatic updates on online safety direct from CEOP – visit [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents)





## Come to the Café

*CEOP launches online safety programme for 8-11 year olds*

**If you are 8, 9, 10 or even 11 years old, you have probably never known the world without the internet or mobile phones.**

With more and more children using the internet, online safety is crucial. In addition, the CEOP Centre receives on average 10 reports a month from children between 8-11 years old – the majority of which relate to online grooming.

In light of this and as part of the ThinkUKnow educational programme, CEOP has now launched new interactive online safety programme, specifically aimed at 8-11 year olds.

The Cybercafe – developed with Becta – allows children to meet Griff and his friends, to learn about different aspects of online safety at their own pace.

The programme aims to be delivered by teachers in schools who can download lesson plans and other resources – all of which have been designed by teachers for teachers and are **free** or as a stand-alone online service for children and parents at home.

### Young people's use of technology – aged 8-11

**41%** of children aged 8-11 regularly use the internet\*

**32%** of children aged 8-11 regularly use a mobile phone\*

**56%** of children aged 8-11 play computer games\*

**7%** of 10 year olds have their own web cam\*

*\*Ofcom report 2007*



## A positive partnership

CEOP have now signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Becta to engender closer and more effective working relationships in order to better safeguard children and young people who use new technologies.

Stephen Crowne, Chief Executive of Becta said: “We are very pleased to have worked closely with CEOP on the development of the Cybercafe. I believe this is an essential resource for all schools and teachers in the primary phase and will help to ensure that children are able to continue to enjoy using the internet safely and responsibly.

“We will continue to work closely with CEOP and continue to build on a relationship that is fundamental to the success of our work on e-safety.”

Visit the Cybercafe at [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8\\_10](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10) and download the lesson plans and teacher resources at [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/teachers](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/teachers).



## Protection through understanding

**On Tuesday 30 October the Home Secretary the Rt. Hon Jacqueline Smith MP visited the CEOP Centre to launch new dedicated resources focused on improving and sharing understanding of how sex offenders operate and think.**

### Understanding behaviour: Behavioural Analysis Unit

Using extensive debrief interviews with child sex offenders and the careful study of detailed accounts of their sexual behaviour towards children, BAU specialists will be able to build criminal profiles that will identify a certain behavioural type or behaviours of an offender.

This knowledge can be used to provide unique insights and new directions within police enquiries – including guidance on investigation and interview strategies.

The use of behavioural analysis – and the additional new perspectives it can bring – will build on the existing body of specialist advice available and being applied throughout the CEOP Centre. The new unit will also be a resource of understanding to officers up and down the country who are investigating serious sexual crimes against children.



The unit's initial build and development has been sponsored by Serco and will be staffed by specialists with a background in child sex offence investigation and behavioural analysis. Its principal focus will be to ensure that the many services CEOP provides to the child protection community remain relevant, focused and effective.

### Using the knowledge: CEOP Academy

Information and analysis gained from the specialist work of the BAU will feed directly into an academic national qualification programme for child protection professionals who specialise in dealing with child sexual abuse.

In practice this will mean that anyone working in child protection can register for the CEOP Academy. Training courses will be open to those who work in sex offender management, child abuse investigation and child protection. Delegates will attend a series of courses – accredited by the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) – which will lead to a recognised qualification – a post graduate certificate in forensic behavioural analysis. Courses will cover building rapport with offenders, interview techniques,

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- ▶ ▶ ▶ understanding behavioural trends and thought patterns – all based on material sourced from convicted child sex offenders.

Launching the new specialist resources, Jacqui Smith commented: “Most people don’t have to think about the sexual abuse of children and nor should they. It is the most horrendous crime imaginable. But for the people in this organisation it is a fact of life because they see the consequences, the dangers, every single day. Already the CEOP Centre is viewed as a model to follow by other countries. Now we see it launching new services that will enhance its understanding, build on its tremendous successes to date and ultimately bring more offenders to account no matter where they operate.”

For further information about the CEOP Academy, please visit [www.ceop.gov.uk/training/academy](http://www.ceop.gov.uk/training/academy)



*Home Secretary the Rt. Hon Jacqueline Smith MP  
visits the CEOP Centre, 30 October*



## Child trafficking under the spotlight

**The NSPCC have now launched a new Child Trafficking Advice and Information Line (CTAIL) to help combat child trafficking in the UK.**

The new service will help provide relevant professionals, such as social workers, teachers, immigration officers, the police and others working or volunteering with children, to identify and safeguard child victims who are trafficked into sexual exploitation, forced labour, drugs transport, benefit fraud, and other crimes

CEOP staff will work alongside colleagues from the NSPCC and will be able to provide relevant advice and information to callers from a child-focused law enforcement perspective, and provide a link to the UK's Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC) for operational and tactical advice.

Chief Executive of the CEOP Centre and ACPO Lead for Child Trafficking, Jim Gamble said: "Children are not a commodity. That they are trafficked into this country for exploitation is abhorrent and this must stop. All too often it can be difficult to recognise a trafficked child for a variety of reasons, but we must be vigilant.

"The new NSPCC helpline will provide a valuable service to professionals on the front line of child protection in not only identifying



child victims of trafficking and their abusers, but will work to ensure those children have the right level of care and support."

Information and advice provided will also shed light on the scale of child trafficking in the UK.

NSPCC director of children's services Wes Cuell said: "Identifying trafficked children can be very difficult, even for a professional working in social services or immigration. These children are incredibly vulnerable – they might be regularly beaten, raped, denied food and basic comforts, and have no access to healthcare or an education.

"The NSPCC's new trafficking advice line will help break down these barriers. Its success will depend on adults working with children being vigilant, calling us when they need to know what to do, and intervening to help protect the victims of child trafficking."

As well as giving advice and information the line will also refer callers to other agencies, including sources of direct support for trafficked children, and provide training to professionals and community organisations working with children.

The Child Trafficking Advice and Information Line – **0800 107 7057** – will initially operate from 9.30am till 4.30pm on weekdays. The line will accept calls from anywhere in the UK.



## Starlight brings glimmer of hope for eight children

**On 18 October 47 year old Vincent Jordan was handed an indeterminate sentence for his role in an internet paedophile ring. He was found guilty of 20 indictments including possession and distribution of indecent images of children and numerous incitement charges – where he goaded other abusers to abduct children and create child abuse images to order.**

Information on Jordan came to the attention of the police as part of Operation Starlight – one of Kent Police's biggest investigations into sexual abuse of children to date.

Jordan was investigated by officers from Kent Police in relation to his connection to Steven Horton, Archibald Wood and Monica McCanch – three child sex offenders who abused numerous children all under the age of 13 and distributed the abuse images online.

Working alongside the Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Centre, forces throughout the country and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), officers from Kent Police's Public Protection Crime Unit (PPCU) meticulously sifted through disturbing evidence to put together the case which has led to the eventual sentencing.



Approximately, 2,500 images were seized from Jordan's computer and passed to the Victim Identification Unit at CEOP. Using a combination of facial recognition software and detection, the team have so far identified eight children aged between 18 months and six years old who have since been protected from further abusive situations. Investigations into victims in these image collections are continuing with more children likely to be identified in due course

Jim Warnock, Head of Operations, Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre; "Police forces are working more closely together than ever before on child abuse cases such as these – brought together and supported by CEOP. This is a pretty formidable combination of resources which should make individuals such as Jordan think twice if they believe they can go online to abuse children around the UK without consequence".



## International collaboration making every child matter ... everywhere

### Thailand – 30 October

A 39 year old British man has been arrested in Thailand following a joint operation by the Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Centre and the Royal Thai Police (RTP).

The man was arrested for offences including transmission of obscene material and malicious internet use. The arrest forms part of an ongoing investigation started in 2003 when the man breached his notification requirements under the sex offenders register. Intelligence reports received in August 2007 indicated that the individual had fled to Thailand and may be a risk to children.

CEOP's Overseas Tracker Team picked up the case and a joint operation was launched alongside the Royal Thai Police – one of a number of collaborative programmes currently running in partnership with the RTP to deter and prevent British nationals travelling to South East Asia to abuse children. Other initiatives included delivering training courses, intelligence sharing and targeted operations against other suspects.

Ian Robertson, Operations Faculty, Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Centre, said: "This arrest is the culmination of a complex and dynamic enquiry across national and



international borders. Child sex offenders who think that they can evade justice by travelling abroad should take note – CEOP's international partnerships mean that there is no hiding place: every child matters everywhere."

### Europe – 5 November

Forty-six suspects have been arrested in the UK to date in connection with a global child sex offender network. Under the auspices of Operation Koala, the CEOP Centre coordinated the UK's response that involved 22 police forces around the country.

Initiated in 2006, this operation stemmed from an investigation into the sexual abuse of children from a modelling agency based in Italy. 'Customers' from all over the world were able to order tailor-made videos depicting abuse. Once the Italian national who was running the website was arrested, police officers found over 150 self-made, sexually explicit videos of young girls. The business had been running for eighteen months and generated considerable profits from around 2,500 customers worldwide.

From here, all the digitised material, including 'customer' details were sent to Europol and Eurojust, who then disseminated the material to the relevant countries.

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- ▶ ▶ ▶ In June 2007, the material was passed to CEOP which holds UK responsibility for receiving intelligence and information from overseas on child sexual abuse crimes.

CEOP's Intelligence Faculty analysed and developed the material and passed details of individual suspects to their local police forces who in turn initiated their own investigations. Operational activity in relation to these investigations is ongoing and likely to continue for some time.

Chief Executive of the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre Jim Gamble said: "Yet again we see the technology used by paedophiles to facilitate child abuse now turned against them as a result of coordinated and effective international law enforcement cooperation. Operation Koala uncovered the true meaning of 'online child abuse': in this case, the exchanging of images in which real children were subjected to horrific sexual abuse, often to order.

The work by Eurojust and Europol on this complex and dynamic investigation will, through working with partners internationally, make children safer in many different countries."



*British national arrested in Thailand, 30 October*



**Benvenuto!**

## Italy joins the VGT

The Italian National Police have now joined forces with law enforcement agencies from Australia, Canada, Interpol, UK and the USA in joining the Virtual Global Taskforce.

Established in 2003, the VGT exists to bring together law enforcement organisations from around the world to protect children from sexual exploitation. The membership agreement was signed by the Italian Deputy Chief of Police, Mr. Luigi De Sena before the delegates from the member states in a conference held in Rome.

This initiative is based around international cooperation and focuses on sexual exploitation of children and the distribution of images. The member states share information and intelligence and ensure a rapid response whenever children are believed to be at immediate risk of harm.

For further information visit [www.virtualglobaltaskforce.com](http://www.virtualglobaltaskforce.com)

The screenshot displays the Virtual Global Taskforce website interface. At the top, the logo features a stylized eye with a person's head inside, next to the text "VIRTUAL GLOBAL TASKFORCE" and the tagline "Making the internet a safe place". Navigation tabs include "Home", "What we do", "Get advice", "Latest news", and "Young people". A large map of Italy is the central focus, with various regions labeled. Overlaid on the map is a yellow box titled "Advice" which states: "This section provides a range of information and support for adults and children to protect themselves against child sexual offenders." To the right, a red box titled "Report" says: "This section provides information on how to report illegal activity with a child online." Below the map, there are several news snippets: "Virtual Global Taskforce is made up of police forces from around the world working together to fight on the internet", "This section provides a range of information and support for adults and children to protect themselves against child sexual offenders", "comes the launch of the NSPCC's HelpLine to combat child trafficking", "but you can't hide - 'Most Wanted' offender back in police custody", and "parents - its time to catch up and protect your children online!". In the bottom right corner, there is a small inset image of a person and a headline: "La Polizia d'entra a far p Virtual Glob".

