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Members' Newsletter January 2024

Invitation to the official opening of the mini-Museum on Tuesday, March 5, 2024. Includes details on location (Court Gate Building, Tavistock) and RSVP information.

CEO's monthly update

It is a pleasure to greet you all at the start of this New Year – though as I write it is already the end of January! This is going to be another year which whizzes past, I am sure. Not least because the Museum team has some ambitious plans for 2024...

Greg White, MOPIDAC CEO.

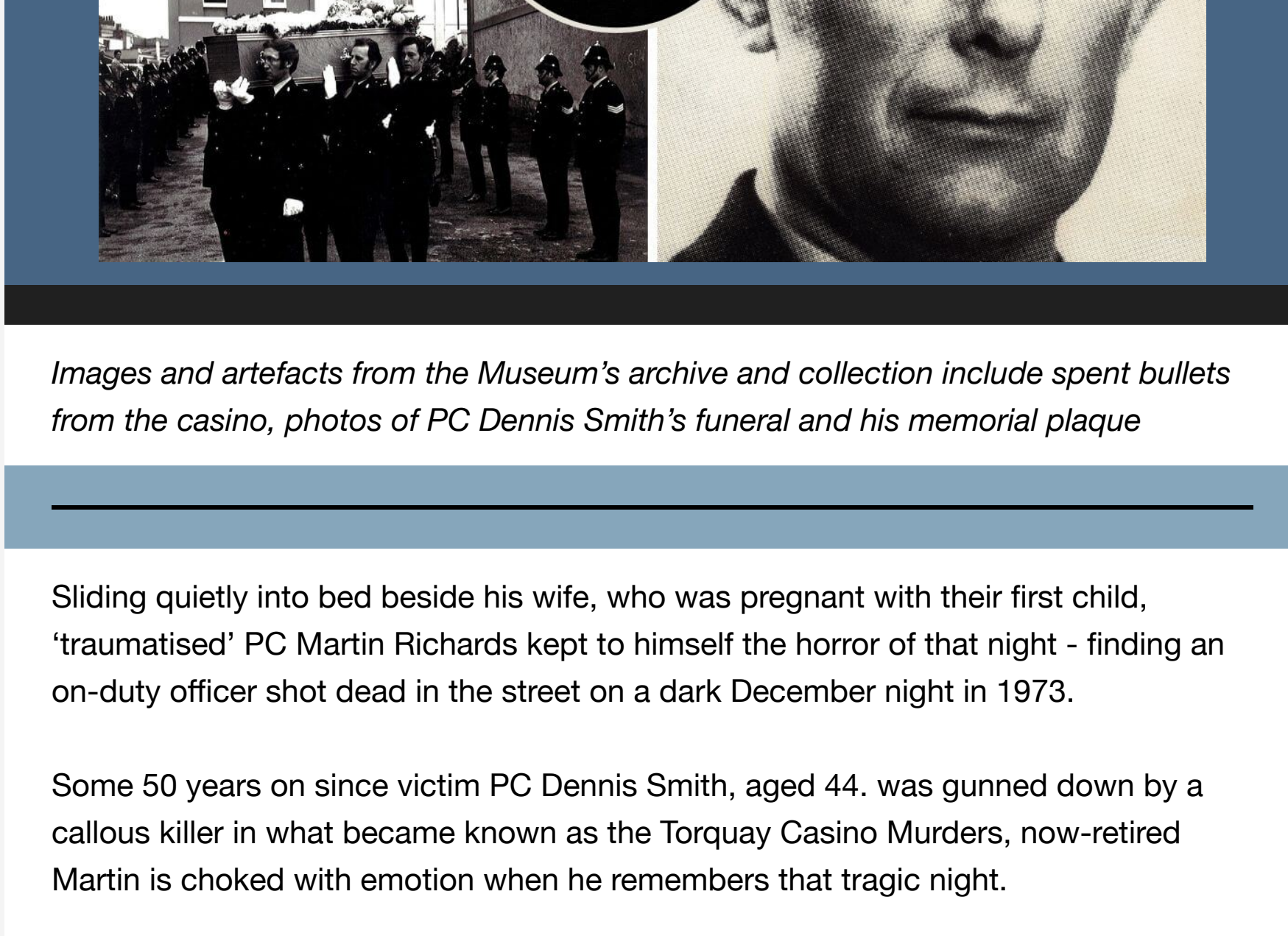
Pictured below: A screenshot from our new website, which went live in December



Website update

After a year of research, planning and working with a team of web designers, the Museum celebrated its new website going live in December. Over 2024 we aim to populate the site with exclusive true crime reads, video, and photo galleries...

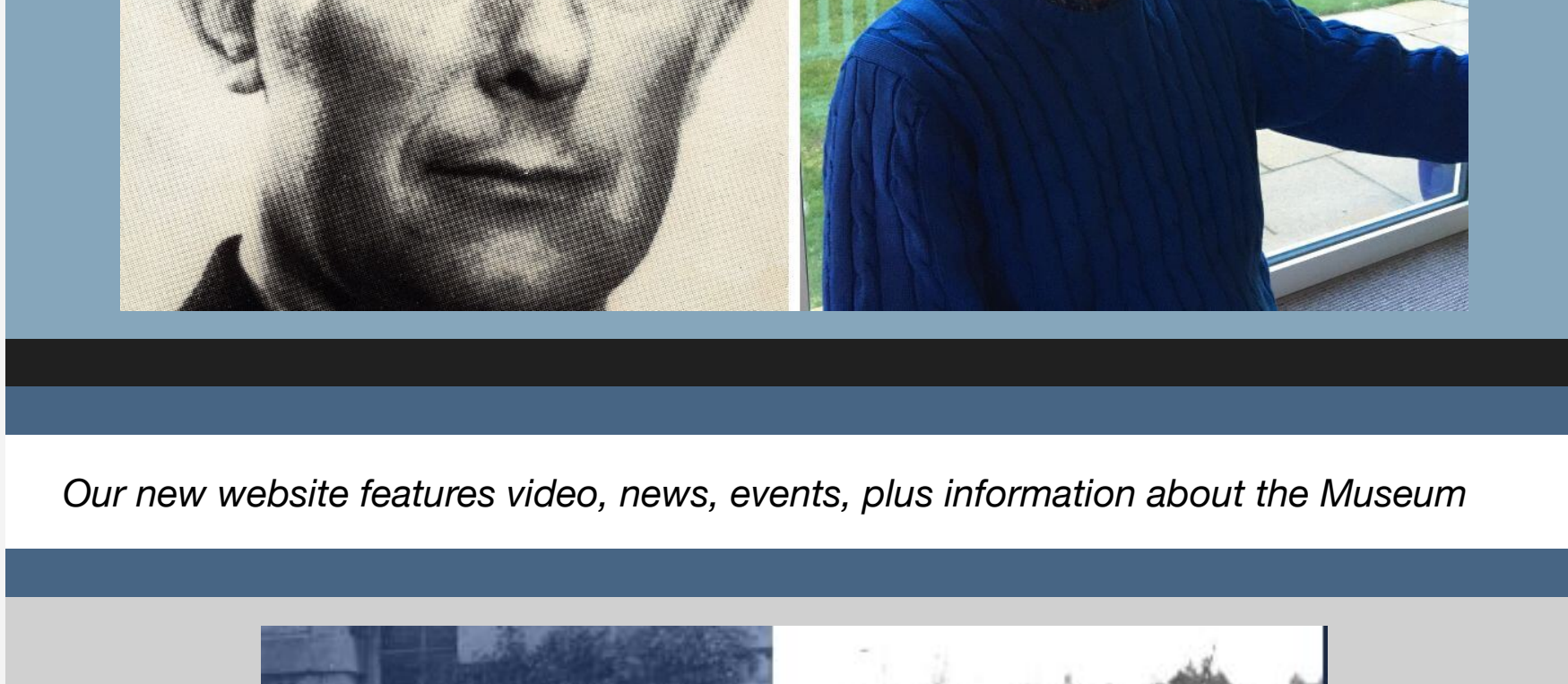
Torquay Casino Murders 50 years on: Retired officer remembers finding on-duty PC Dennis Smith shot dead by a rampaging gunman



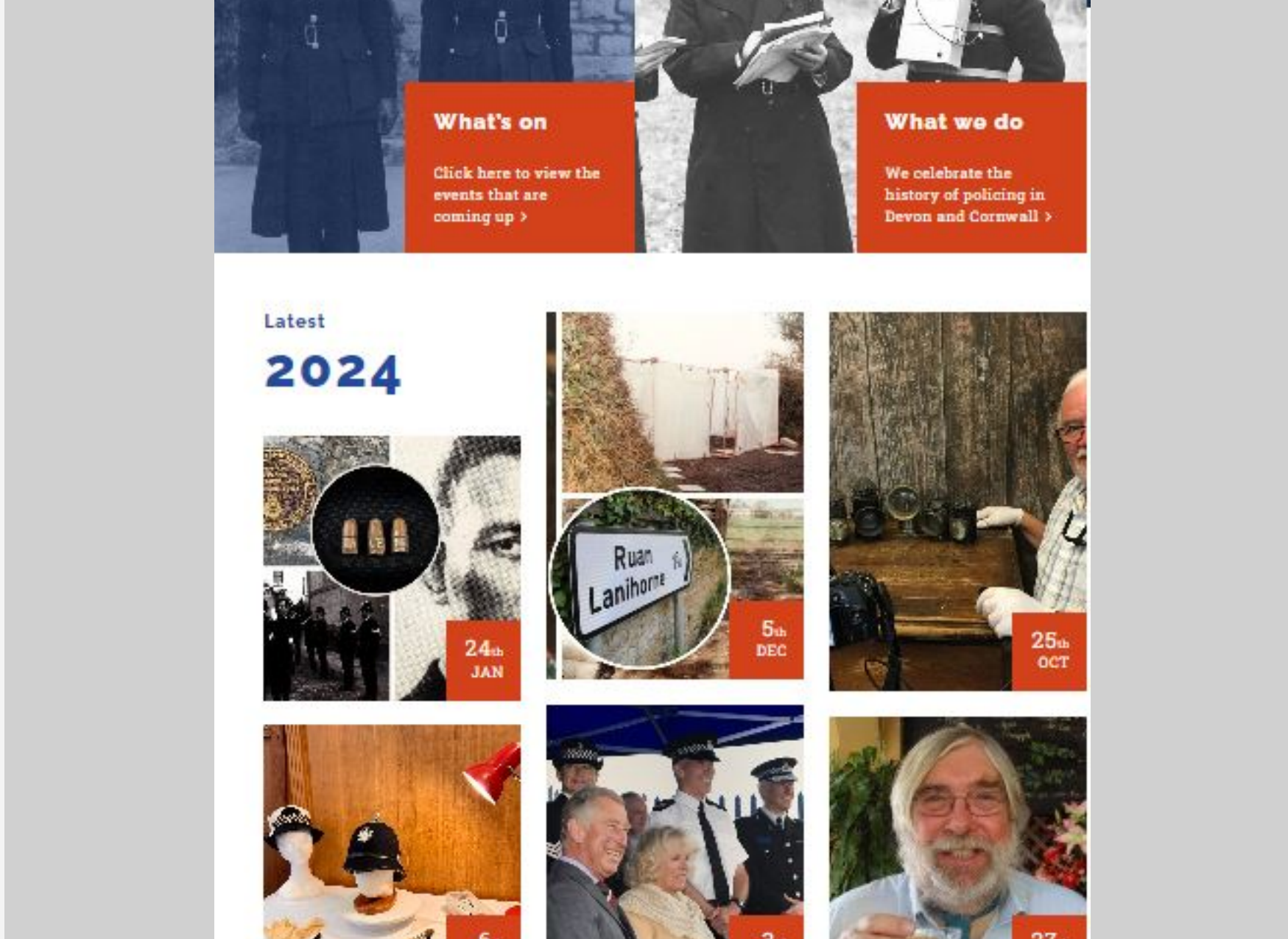
Images and artefacts from the Museum's archive and collection include spent bullets from the casino, photos of PC Dennis Smith's funeral and his memorial plaque

Sliding quietly into bed beside his wife, who was pregnant with their first child, 'traumatised' PC Martin Richards kept to himself the horror of that night - finding an on-duty officer shot dead in the street on a dark December night in 1973. Some 50 years on since victim PC Dennis Smith, aged 44, was gunned down by a callous killer in what became known as the Torquay Casino Murders...

Below: left, is PC Dennis Smith, as remembered by now-retired Martin Richards, right



Our new website features video, news, events, plus information about the Museum



Discover more than 200 years of policing heritage. A video player interface with a play button and a 'PLAY' label.

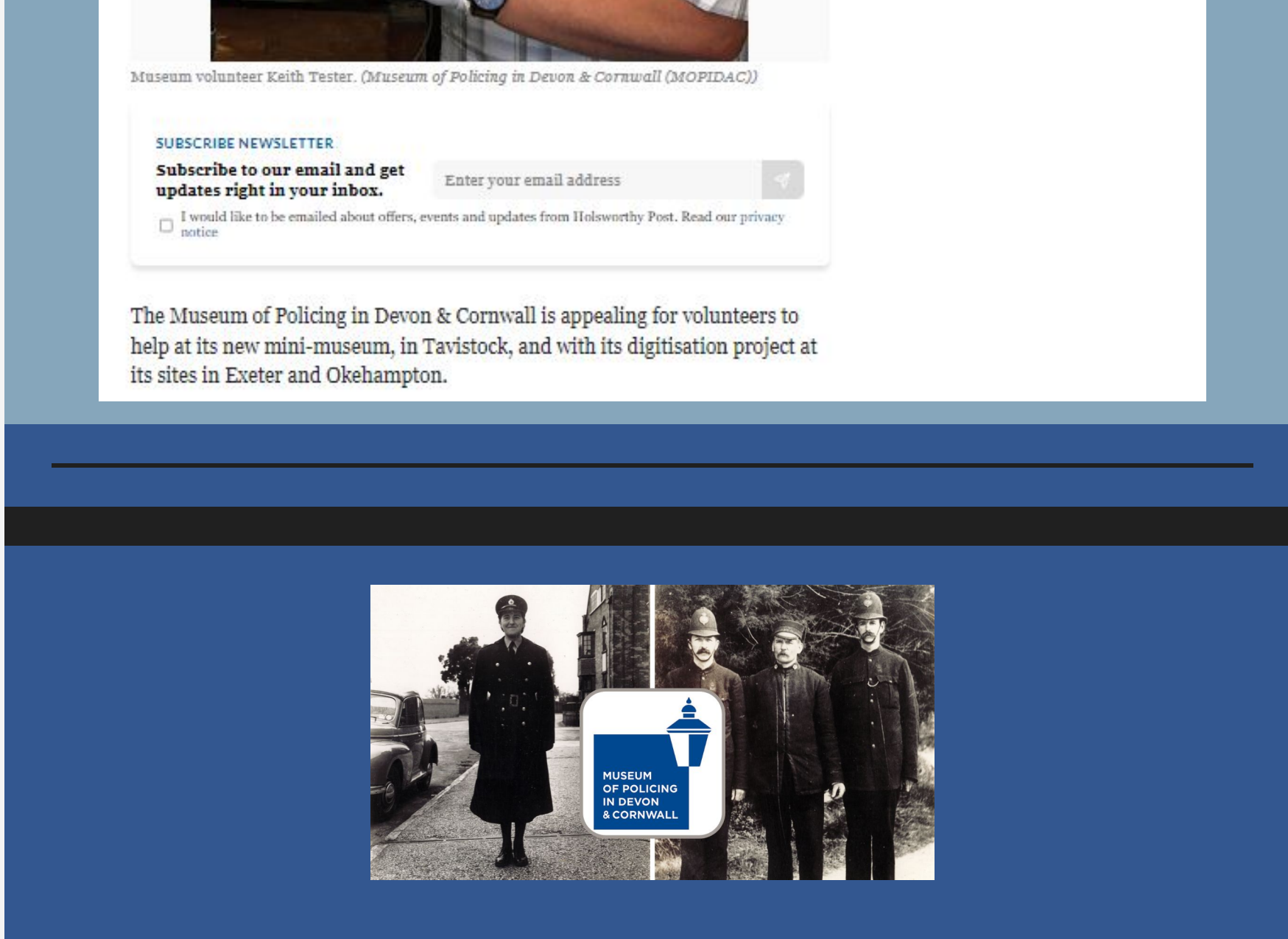
Museum in the news...

The Museum has been in the news over recent weeks thanks to a volunteer drive to recruit extra help at the archive in Exeter, the collection in Okehampton, and at the micro-museum, in Tavistock. Community newspapers and online titles the Tavistock Times Gazette, the Cornish & Devon Post, the Holsworthy Post, and the Bude & Stratton Post, ran our appeal in publications across Devon and Cornwall...

The Bude & Stratton Post ran our volunteer appeal with an online article



Below: How the Holsworthy Post reported the Museum's volunteer appeal



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Our mailing address is: Museum of Policing in Devon & Cornwall, Okehampton Police Station, Okehampton, EX20 1NN

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