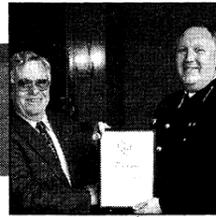




Romanian
convoy - P3



Special Edition -
Centre pages



Project secures
award - P9

Study looks at rural policing

A THOROUGH study of the work carried out by the rural policing teams across the county is now underway.

Following the introduction of the rural policing model just over a year ago, the implementation of the model is being reviewed as part of the ongoing commitment to providing the best rural policing service possible.

The review is being headed by Chief Insp Jed Stopher and will look at divisional management of the model and at public response to it.

Command teams have been asked to confirm the current status of staffing and resources within their divisional teams.

A selection of rural and community teams from across the county are being surveyed on their comparative workloads and levels of abstractions.

This will be analysed together with data from divisions without rural teams to establish the impact of divisional requirements on rural teams.

Survey

The effect of the implementation on the local community will also be measured through a study of the levels of recorded crime, disorder and detected crime.

A survey is being produced to assess public awareness of the service available and residents' experiences and perception of it.

Chief Inspector Stopher said: "We want this review to look at how the model has been implemented by Essex Police and the effect of that implementation on the service received by the public.

"We'll be analysing the information received and will be reporting back to chief officers later in the summer."

New training programme for police drivers

ON THE RIGHT ROAD



A NEW driver training programme is implemented this month within Essex Police, to ensure the correct level of training is given to the right people at the right time.

Following a review of driver training offered in-house, a new three stage programme is being introduced to replace the current Basic, Standard, Response and Advanced courses.

by Ruth Collin

All new officers wishing to drive Essex Police vehicles will need to undergo at least part of this new training programme.

Current drivers may, depending on their current authorisation, also fall within this training programme.

Stage One is a two-week driver training course

which will train a novice driver with approximately 18 months' service up to the level of non-response driving.

The second stage is based on an officer's Personal Development Plan. The PDP style document should enable an individual to show evidence of their ability and knowledge of basic policing skills.

Dependent on duties, this document may be completed within a short period of time, of say between one or two months. Once completed, subject to being approved by support managers, the officer will be put forward to carry out Stage Three.

This is a three week driver training course which

will result in the officer being able to drive any size car under emergency response conditions.

Stage One training incorporates not only driving tuition, but will also look at other practical skills, for example, not just an officer's attendance to a road crash, but also their actual deployment and readiness to deal with the incident.

Stage One and Three will also include more time in the car and less in the classroom than previous courses. The car is more clearly defined as a mobile classroom.

The theory examinations will be carried out on division before the officer attends the course.

Officers who have already passed some of the old style courses will move over the new programme automatically. For example, those who have completed the Basic training will need to complete Stage One, but those who have completed the Standard course will, subject to the requirements of Stage Two, move onto Stage Three, irrespective of their pass level.

Continued on page 11.

PM's praise for young poets

AN Essex crime prevention initiative is celebrating its fifth year, with the praise of Prime Minister Tony Blair putting it in the limelight.

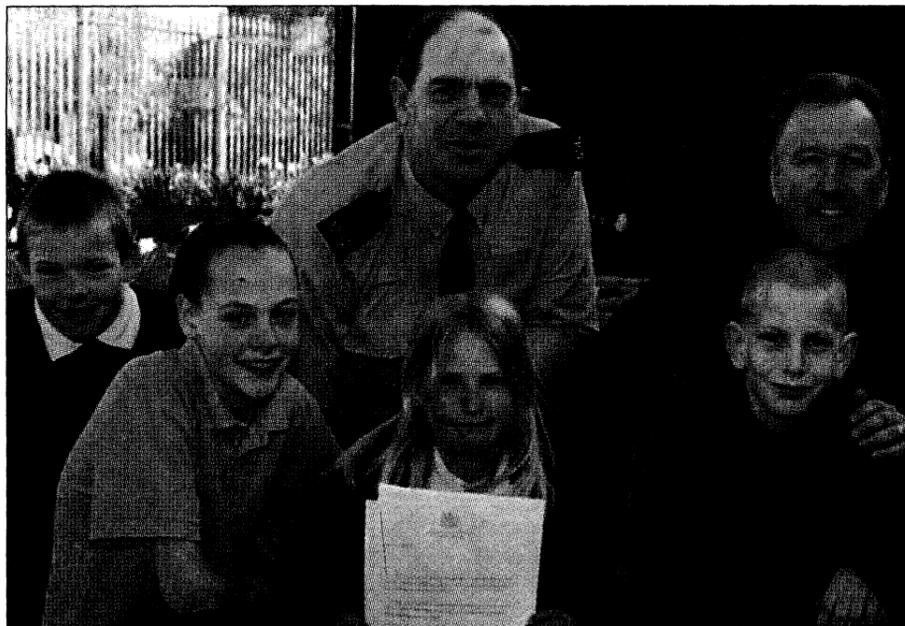
The scheme, run by police at Harwich and the town council, involves children from local primary schools writing poetry related to crime.

The intention is to catch their attention at a young age and dissuade them and others from offending.

The poems are printed in an anthology booklet which is published annually at an awards ceremony.

The novel idea was the brainchild of Harwich town councillor Garry Calver. He spoke to Harwich community sergeant Peter Wood, who put it in motion and is still involved today.

For the first three years it was called Verse



PC Tony Welham and MP Ivan Henderson, with some of the young poets.

Photo: Rob Seabrook, EADT

Against Vandalism, but it has since evolved to Rhyme Against Crime, giving it a wider range of topics.

The political praise began when Harwich MP Ivan Henderson put forward a House of Commons motion congratulating

everyone involved in the initiative.

Continued on page 2.

Without us, you're on your own

THE Federation Open Meeting took place at Police Headquarters on April 10 and I thank all those members who came along and made it a fully worthwhile meeting.

Numerous questions were asked after the speeches, mostly directed at the Chief Constable on issues of morale, single crewing, recruitment and deployment.

All were answered, perhaps not entirely to the officers' satisfaction, but other issues were taken away to be addressed outside the meeting.

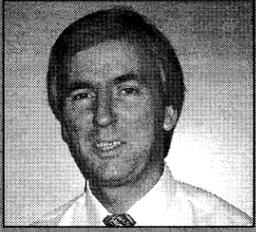
All in all, a valuable evening.

I have been asked to explain what the Federation does for you and I precis this as best I can.

Occasionally, in the course of your work, you

Federation Newsline

by Terry Spelman



will need practical help - advice about your own personal circumstances. Sometimes you may want someone to raise issues with the elected politicians of the day about things that really matter to you, such as your pay and your personal protection.

This is where the Police Federation comes in.

Pay

We are the official body that negotiates your pay and allowances, pensions and conditions of service with the government, chief officers and police authorities.

We also deal with professional issues, including training, promotion, discipline, equal opportunities and health and safety.

The Police Federation has been doing this job for almost 80 years, ever since it was set up by an Act of Parliament.

It is run entirely by serving police officers, who are elected by their fellow members.

We are non-political and independent of outside affiliations.

Besides what we do for the service as a whole, we also look after you as an individual. Policing is complex, sometimes dangerous and always unpredictable. You have to expect the unexpected.

At times in your career, you may encounter problems you hadn't anticipated. You may be injured on duty, involved in an accident or someone may make an allegation about you, for which you'll want legal representation.

Alternatively, you may just want a chat about what to do in certain circumstances or what your legal rights are.

All these are matters for the Police Federation. We are here to help you and to speak on your behalf about

everything affecting your conditions and the welfare and efficiency of the service. We are a fighting Federation and we fight for you.

As the body which represents 95 per cent of all serving police officers from the rank of constable to chief inspector, the Police Federation of England & Wales is the voice of the police service.

It's a voice which is heard regularly on TV, radio and in the press, as we campaign on your behalf and work tirelessly to ensure that you and your fellow officers are given a fair deal financially, legally and professionally.

Voice

It's a voice which is heard in the corridors of power as we lobby to ensure that our case is heard by the government, opposition parties and the House of Lords.

And it's a voice which is on the other end of a phone when you need help and advice in times of trouble.

We know that you are forbidden to strike and can sometimes be the subject of malicious allegations and unfounded criticism, which is why we spend millions of pounds each year using our resources to support individual officers and to secure a fair deal for the policing profession as a whole.

Your membership of the Police Federation is the best insurance policy you may ever take out, so read on to discover how we can help you.

The Federation negotiates on all aspects of pay, allowances, hours of duty, annual leave and pensions.

Training

It is consulted when police regulations are made dealing with training, promotion and discipline.

It takes an active interest in a wide range of subjects which affect the police service and puts forward views on your behalf.

As a result, the Federation is more than a staff association. It is also a professional body able to influence not only living

standards, through pay and benefits, but also the development of professional standards.

Here are some of the things we do for you:

- Provide free legal advice and assistance to members facing criminal proceedings for any offence

- Negotiate nationally on police pay and conditions

- Provide welfare advice and help with personal issues

- Offer legal assistance to members charged with an offence when driving on duty

- Provide advice and representation at disciplinary hearings

- Help with civil claims and industrial injury claims

- Update police equipment and uniforms

- Give cover for personal public liability

- Assist with grievance procedures

- Offer advice to anyone suffering sexual, racial or other discriminatory harassment

- Maintain professional reputations during defamation proceedings to clear officers' names

- Provide representation at employment tribunals

- Offer financial advice and debt counselling

- Give pensions advice, and

- Improve training.

Each police force has a branch of the Police Federation, with three separate committees, known as branch boards, elected by the constables, sergeants and inspectors respectively.

Every member is entitled to vote for a local representative of the appropriate rank.

Each branch board or central committee also has a representative of women officers. Elections take place every three years. On matters which apply to all ranks, the branch boards sit together as the joint branch board and negotiate local conditions of service with the chief officer.

The local or departmental representative negotiates with the appropriate local senior officer.

A central committee operates nationally on behalf of each rank. Members of the

joint central committee are elected for three years by the central conferences.

The central committee officers are appointed by the committee members, who also nominate members to serve on the national negotiating and consultative bodies; the police negotiating board and the police advisory board.

Every year, the police negotiating board reviews police pay according to an agreed formula.

Conditions of service (i.e. pay, allowances, working hours, leave and pensions) are set out in the police regulations which are approved by Parliament.

Boards

Non-negotiable subjects (e.g. training, promotion and discipline) are dealt with through the police advisory board. The Police Federation represents the federated ranks on both boards.

The Federation prides itself on its service to members and its continuing ability to give good value for money, whilst operating efficiently and cost effectively with the contributions provided by you.

Our services give you the security and peace of mind that comes from knowing that our legal and other professional advisers are there to help whenever you need them.

Every year, several thousand officers have good cause to be grateful for the expertise of this "Rolls Royce" service.

Benefits

In 1999, we spent £7.5 million on professional services. This represents over two thirds of the contributions the national committee received from members.

This brought huge benefits to members. For example, we recovered nearly £2 million in damages and compensation in 1999 on behalf of members who had suffered injuries on duty.

In recent years, we have also recovered £1.25 million in damages for officers who have been defamed.

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INSURANCE

Rhyme Against Crime

● From page 1

This was followed by a letter from 10 Downing Street in which the Prime Minister wrote:

"Sadly many young people commit crimes. But they are also all too often the victims of crime - and so many of the poems in the booklet describe graphically what an unpleasant experience that is.

"It is therefore good to hear about the Rhyme Against Crime initiative, which gives young people an opportunity to have their say on such an

important subject.

"I congratulate the young people on the quality of their verse and everyone else involved in the scheme for their contribution to it."

Accolade

A further accolade came when Home Secretary Jack Straw wrote a special message to be read at last month's annual awards ceremony.

Sgt Wood said: "Its brought the whole community togeth-

er. Great praise is due to M Calver and to the support given by Bryan Chittick, Russ Cole and Tony Welham, all of the Harwich Community Policing Team."

Their divisional commander, Acting Supt Cra Robertson, added to the praise, saying: "This is another fine example of partnership working. Our relationship with the primary schools Harwich is enabling us to deter youngsters from crim-

Policing the protesters

AN Essex Police Environmental Protest Policy is to be developed following the peaceful resolution of the A130 road protest operation.

Operation Fathom began 12 months ago when protesters set up camp in and around Gorse Wood, near Rettendon, in response to the expansion of the new A130.

The Under Sheriff of Essex executed a writ of possession on behalf of the road developers in February this year and the plans swung into action.

A private tunnelling team was brought in to remove the final five protesters who had remained underground for almost six weeks.

The Essex Police role in the operation was a delicate one. The police have a legal obligation to assist the Under Sheriff, but police officers do not get involved in the removal of people in tunnels or up trees.

Officers had to police the protest impartially, recognising the right to protest peacefully and within the law, but also the right of the developers to go about their lawful business.

The operation resulted in 28 arrests, mainly for obstructing or resisting court officers. Those arrested have

been dealt with by way of police cautions or charged and bailed.

At the Operation Fathom debrief, it was decided to formulate an Environmental Protest Policy to expand on the lessons learned from the incident.

The importance of liaison officers has been identified. This role can be difficult and sometimes very isolated, but it ensures a link between police, local community and protesters. It is recommended that such officers be appointed at the start of any environmental protest.

Safety

Health and safety was also considered a vital element of dealing with such an operation. Throughout Operation Fathom, health and safety was highlighted at every opportunity and reiterated in handouts given to every officer involved.

A more structured protocol for dealing with prisoners has also been suggested. In future operations, a custody officer will be appointed to act as the operation liaison officer to establish the protocol. Joint briefings will take place between custody officers, processing teams and arresting officers.

A more flexible approach to major incidents

A NEW approach to dealing with major incidents is being introduced following one of the busiest six months in Essex Police's history.

by Ruth Collin

Recent events such as the air crash near Stansted Airport and the hijack fully stretched resources.

In a move to create a more flexible and practical approach to dealing with such incidents, MILDU (Major Incident Logistics and Deployment Unit) will be replaced. The new Logistics Team will not only incorporate police officers, but also hold vital roles for support staff.

Overseeing the implementation, Superintendent

David Murthwaite said: "In the recent incidents at Stansted Airport, support staff played a key role in providing essential skills, not only in administration, but also in areas such as team management. Feedback from the incident suggests that they enjoyed playing their part and using their skills to assist in the peaceful resolution of the hijacking.

Skills

"A list of willing support staff volunteers from HQ is now being established to provide a pool of skills and experiences who can be called in the event of a major incident."

Under the current MILDU system, responsibilities for various departments and individuals are clearly

defined and adhered to under the control of the MILDU Commander. However, when no-one or not enough people from that department are available, problems arise. Calling in other staff can sometimes then be carried out on an adhoc basis and dependant upon individuals.

Command

Under the new Logistic Teams, the Logistics Command Centre will be able to deploy support staff from the volunteer list to manage or assist in a task for which they have the appropriate skills. The Logistics Centre will also be expanded to include departments such as Finance and Estates Management, so they can assess any implications for them at an early stage.

Superintendent Murthwaite said: "Unfortunately we can't

always predict when a major incident will happen, but if you are prepared to be called to join the Logistics Team at any time, and have experience in keyboards, telephones, briefings or managing teams, then we'd like to hear from you." Joining the list does not mean you will have to attend every time you are called, but it's hoped the pool will be large and varied enough to meet the individual needs of the operation.

Roles

Forms should have been returned to Contingency Planning for processing. Work is also taking place to establish exactly what roles and tasks the Team will undertake. It's hoped the Logistics Team will be ready for any major incident from the end of June.

Convoy 2000 hits the road



● Ready for the off - volunteers load up some of the equipment heading for Romania.

HUNDREDS of Romanian orphans look set to benefit from a major charity project involving Essex Police which gets underway this month.

Nineteen Essex Police staff, both serving and retired, are preparing to travel to Romania as part of Convoy 2000. The project, in association with the Metropolitan Police Service, the Aid for Children charity and Rotary International, will provide much needed equipment and manpower to improve the quality of life for the children.

Leading supermarket, Tesco, and two other major sponsors have pledged £25,000 between them. Their support has triggered a payment of £18,000 from Rotary International, on top of the £7,000 cash already obtained through fundraising. This brings the total funds to £50,000.

The Essex contingent will spend their seven days carrying out work on three

major projects. At an orphanage for the under-fives, six washing machines will be provided and installed together with spin dryers and other laundry equipment.

In the second project, new beds, mattresses, linen and wardrobes will be provided and installed at an orphanage which homes 150 girls between the ages of five and 15. Currently the girls sleep sometimes two or three to a bed in large dormitories and have no privacy. The new furniture, plus carpets and other equipment will be provided by Convoy 2000.

The third project will be refurbishing and decorating an orphanage for 175 boys who currently share just two toilets.

Joint approach to noise nuisance

NOISY radios, all night parties, car and house alarms ringing continuously are all nuisances to people in the neighbourhood.

Police in Tendring have joined forces with the local council and come up with a joint approach to tackling the problem. The agreement sets out the role and scope of

Essex Co-ordinator, retired Detective Superintendent David Bright said: "All those taking part are doing so in their own time and are paying their own way. We've also had a lot of support from staff who aren't able to come themselves but who want to do their bit to help. The public have also been extremely supportive; schools and other organisations have responded to the shoebox appeal and the Rotary Clubs in Essex have also been tremendously helpful."

The Convoy 2000 vehicles leave on May 16 with the volunteers travelling out on May 19.

police and local authority officials and details what can be done and how it should be tackled.

Leaflets have been distributed to the public, explaining what each agency can and will do when a complaint of excess noise is made.

They have also been produced for council staff and

police officers in Tendring division detailing their responsibilities.

Chief Inspector Craig Robertson said police were delighted to promote a joint approach with the council.

"The steps we are taking will hopefully improve the environment for everyone", he added.

ASU's busy day

AIR Support Unit assisted in three arrests in a single 24-hour period last month.

The crews were involved in three separate decamps in which they aided officers on the ground to trace suspects.

In one of the incidents, in South Ockendon, the helicopter crew located a heat source in a garden shed and were able to direct ground units to the scene.

Get Bobbies back on beat

I REALLY couldn't let Andy Fitch's letter (March Law) go unanswered.

Andy talks a great deal of sense about his interpretation of the trials and tribulations of today's policing and shows some respect for the "old school" (where I unashamedly belong).

However, he has missed the point completely!

I would have some of you plodding about like Dixon of Dock Green. I always tried to model myself on his attributes.

Society's problems today have developed in part because the public has lost everyday contact with the beat patrol officer.

You will probably answer

by saying that the criminal is motorised, officers are needed elsewhere, etc. Believe it or not, I have heard all these counter-arguments before.

Until such time as officers are back on foot patrol as a priority, learning the job at grass roots level, where the public can readily speak to "their" policeman/woman, I fear that the police service will create an even wider gap with the community.

The same mistakes were made in the late sixties and throughout the seventies. The only time police officers were seen was as they flashed by in panda cars.

Many senior officers of that era subsequently conceded that the service had "lost the

plot", having created a wide chasm, which some may argue has never been filled.

I still care a great deal about Essex Police and especially for those currently serving, learning and agonising.

Sadly, the question of foot and bicycle patrols will, I feel, always remain a political hot potato.

Irate councillor contacts local Superintendent complaining that he never sees an officer on such patrols. Result? Abracadabra and a wave of the magic wand - foot and cycle patrols re-appear, only to vanish into thin air once the fuss has died down.

Sound familiar?

Frank Holden
Colchester

Search for RAF Police

SINCE as early as 1991 I have been searching for members of the Royal Air Force Police who were stationed at RAF Honington during the late 1950s and through the 1960s.

From information I received recently it would appear that the father of one missing chap, was a

high ranking officer during the aforementioned period, and that they lived in Ongar, Essex.

The person that I seek is Chris Burgin, an ex-RAF police dog-handler, whom I wish to reunite with his pals from yesteryear and to persuade to attend our annual reunions.

I would appreciate any assistance you can afford me.

If you have any information which might help me, I can be contacted on 0151 287 8192 or at 19 Boswell Street, Bootle, Merseyside L20 4RP.

Gordon Leonard
Merseyside

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Police Headquarters,
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I'm proud to have worked with you

ON behalf of Lesley and myself, may I take the opportunity to use *The Law* to thank everybody who came along to my retirement party, or sent their best wishes.

If I'm honest, it was a night I was facing with some apprehension, but you all made it an occasion to remember, even if at one stage during the cabaret I might have appeared a touch concerned!

To all who contributed to the wonderful presents we cannot thank you enough.

Gifts

We do intend to write personally, but if we inadvertently miss anybody, please accept our apologies.

Needless to say the gifts will take pride of place at home and, if it ever stops raining, the barbecue will come out of the packing.

To all my friends at Southend and the Divisional Sports Club a particular thank-you.

Your gift is something I will always treasure and it will continually bring back many happy memories of my service with you at Southend.

I know I did not get the opportunity to speak to everyone as I would have wished

on the night, but the whole experience was somewhat overwhelming.

Just over 31 years ago I made a decision that turned out to be one of my better ones (I've made many dodgy ones). I decided to start a career with Essex Police.

I did not know where it would lead, but I've been very lucky. It has enabled me to meet and work with many fine people.

I am proud and privileged to have worked alongside such friends and colleagues.

You make Essex Police what it is - the best Force in the land, and I'm not saying that through rose-tinted specs.

That does not make us perfect, because we are not. We are human and we have to deal with other people's problems.

Consequently, we will make mistakes and we will not always find perfect solutions.

Life isn't like that. However, you have demonstrated on many occasions that more often than not you do get it right.

That was palpably dis-

played to the whole world during the recent air crash and hi-jacking at Stansted Airport.

It is an achievement of which you can be justifiably proud and is the envy of many forces worldwide.

Never forget though, that to the pensioner who has her purse snatched, that is just as much a major incident and will always deserve an equally professional and caring approach.

Let us always treat the victims as we would wish ourselves and our families to be treated in similar circumstances.

Once again, thank-you for everything. For your friendship, support and commitment over many years.

Appreciated

It really has been appreciated, even if I've sometimes forgotten to say so.

I am proud to have worked with you all and will miss but never forget you.

If you are ever passing through Woodham, do call in for a cuppa, or even something stronger.

Michael and Lesley
Benning,
South Woodham Ferrers

Can you help?

What a feeble excuse!

FROM the Essex County Standard, March 31, 2000, looking back to events in 1950:

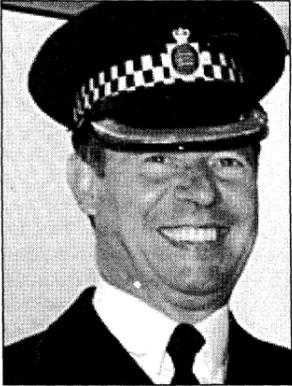
"Magistrates in Clacton heard how a Colchester policeman had chased a man suspected of house-breaking for seven miles across country, starting from near Ardeleigh and finishing at Higham in Suffolk. Before the court were three soldiers from the Military Corrective Establishment in Colchester, who were sent for trial."

Seeing this article took me back fifty years. The policeman concerned was Pc Rison (later Sergeant). I remember the incident well and do you know, the lazy so and so later said he was too tired to play badminton with us!

L A Godwin (Rtd),
Walton-on-Naze

E S S E X P O L I C E

Special Edition



● Commandant Alan Hill

Lindsay's role here to stay

SINCE taking over from Annette Williamott nearly two years ago Lindsay Hurrell's position as Specials Co-ordinator has now been made permanent, based at Headquarters.

She writes: "The past year has been busy for myself and Anita Exley in the way of recruiting, advertising, and attending open evenings and various recruitment events."

"In March I joined forces with Kent, Surrey and the Metropolitan Police for a one-day recruitment drive at Bluewater, as part of the National Specials Recruitment fortnight."

"I will also be joining forces with Suffolk, Norfolk and Cambridge at Mildenhall Airshow over the May bank holiday."

Recruits

"This will be the first time that all four forces have joined together to do a recruitment drive and with an estimated 300,000 visitors from all over the country should mean that we will get some interest from potential recruits."

"Since the beginning of the year we have been advertising on the radio prior to each set of open evenings. This has proved successful, as well as the advertising at the cinema."

"The new recruitment leaflets and posters are now complete, if you require a supply of these then please contact Anita x 54111. We have also changed the application pack, which has been brought in line with the new corporate image; these should be ready for the next set of open evenings."

What a year!

LOOKING back over the past 12 months, it always amazes me how quickly time passes and how much the Essex Special Constabulary seem able to fit into another year.

I, together with the Deputy Commandant George Cook, have met

A personal view of the past 12 months by Commandant ALAN J HILL

many officers who have performed outstanding police work in the course of their duties and whom I have congratulated and commended for their acts of courage and good police work.

I would like to congratulate

all my colleagues in the Special Constabulary for the commitment to the community and to the policing of Essex.

When I see that a total of some 115,000 hours of their time was given to help police Essex I often wonder how they are able to make such a

massive contribution when they have families and their own work.

Updates on other developments include the installation of a number of facsimile machines at locations on the Dengie peninsula, which will enable faster contact between the Special constables

working in this large rural area.

Other officers are soon to be issued with mobile telephone to enhance their communication abilities and their personal safety.

Laptop

Every Divisional Officer is also being issued with a laptop computer for use and I am hoping that his will also play a part in speeding up communications between us.

As you are all probably aware the new driver training programme is under way and I wish you every success in your pursuit of a driving permit.

I could not finish without a big thank you to all members of the Special Constabulary who so freely gave of their own time, yet again, when called up to carry out duties following the hijack at Stansted Airport

Response

I know just how much your speedy response and the professional manner in which you carried out your duties was appreciated by us and senior members of Essex Police.

Finally I wish you and your families all the very best for the remainder of 2000.

We've got wheels

SPECIAL Constables based at Colchester will be the envy of their colleagues as they have taken delivery of a Land-Rover Freelander 1.8 commercial on a three month loan from HR Owen based in the town.

The loan was arranged thanks to the persistence of SO Colin Shead and Sc Leon Dias who wrote letters and then made a presentation to the dealership promoting the work of the



● Andrew Gallagher, Sales & Marketing Manager for HR Owen hands over the keys to SO Colin Shead.

Special Constabulary.

Five Specials have qualified to drive the vehicle, which will be especially useful in Colchester Division's rural section, which includes Mersea Island, where the

vehicle's off road capabilities may be put to the test.

It is also planned to use it throughout the division for speed enforcement and with its special livery to generally raise the profile of the

Special Constabulary.

Officers hope that the sponsorship will be extended for a further period and believe this to be the first sponsored vehicle for the Special Constabulary.

Those boots were made for walking

PULL on those boots, dig deep in your pockets and give your full support to the sixth annual Specials' charity walk.

All proceeds from this year's event will be going to the Essex Air Ambulance fund.

Organiser, Deputy Commandant George Cook, said: "Anyone is welcome to join us for all or part of the walk, even for half a day."

"The walk is easy-going, without any hills, is suitable for most people and takes in some of the finest scenery in Essex."

If you want to tag along, you are advised to take suitable clothing for inclement weather and to wear decent

walking boots or shoes.

Starting on Friday, May 19 at Epping Tube Station, the walk follows The Essex Way route across the county, ending at Harwich lighthouse on the afternoon of Wednesday, May 24, a total distance of more than 81 miles.

For the first three nights, limited free accommodation is available at Essex Police Training Centre (EPTC), with limited accommodation at the Marks Tey hotel for the last two nights, for which there is a charge of £42.50 per head in single rooms, which includes full board and use of the fitness centre.

All accommodation is on a 'first come first served' basis.

To enable both transport and accommodation arrangements to be made, those wishing to participate are requested to contact George Cook during the day at Southend Police Station, extn 30500.

Sponsorship forms are available from the Special Constabulary at each division, from Lindsay Hurrell, Specials' co-ordinator at HQ (extn 54154), or from George at Southend.

Itinerary

May 19 (16.9 miles). 7am - meet at Essex Police Training Centre, Chelmsford, for pick up by minibus; 8am - walk starts from Epping Tube

Station; 12/1pm* - High Street, Chipping Ongar; 5/6pm* - Star Inn, Good Easter.

May 20 (13.9 miles). 8.30am - meet at EPTC; 9.30am - Star Inn, Good Easter; 12/1pm* - Main Road, Great Waltham; 5/6pm* - The Ford, Terling.

May 21 (14.8 miles). 8.30am - meet at EPTC; 9am - The Ford, Terling; 12/1pm* - The Church, Cressing; 5/6pm* - The Church, Great Tey.

May 22 (12.1 miles). 8.30am - meet at EPTC; 9am - The Church, Great Tey; 12/1pm* - New Church Road, West Bergholt; 5/6pm* - The Church, Boxted.

May 23 (13 miles) 8.30am - meet at Marks Tey Hotel for pick up by minibus; 9am - The Church, Boxted; 12/1pm* - Quay Street, Manningtree; 5/6pm* - The Strangers Home Inn, Bradfield.

May 24 (10.7 miles). 8.30am - meet at Marks Tey Hotel; 9.45am - The Strangers Home Inn, Bradfield; 12/1pm* - The Church, Wrabness; 3pm* - The High Lighthouse, Harwich.

*All lunch time and evening times/locations are approximate and may change according to circumstances/weather, etc.

taking a lead in making Essex safer

A challenging time

Team building success

BRAINTREE Division covers an area of some 400 square miles and is divided into five police sections - Witham, Braintree, Halstead, Dunmow and Saffron Walden.

The year began as always with many challenges and events and not enough officers.

As elsewhere within the force, we have had a downturn in our numbers with many officers leaving us to join the regulars in Essex and in other forces.

The pressure on the Special Constabulary increases as the expectations of the public and regular officers grows but so do our levels of competence.

To help with training we held OSPRE training at

BRAINTREE

Headquarters and were joined by officers from Colchester and Basildon.

The second weekend had to be postponed until June because of the Stansted hijacking. Many thanks to everyone who helped run the event.

The two major incidents at Stansted, the air crash and later hijacking, made us very busy at short notice.

All credit here to A/DO Derek Hopkins for all his sterling work at HQ at that time.

The year ended with our annual trip to the Dales for the team building weekend

with 19 taking part - our highest number to date.

Joined by officers from Colchester we split into three groups and conquered the three peaks of Penyghent, Whernside and Ingleborough in one day.

The next day most of the group completed the waterfalls walk before the journey home.

Any Essex officer who is interested in taking part in this weekend next year should contact the DO at Braintree.

DO John Salmon

More than 80 arrests

COLCHESTER

ONCE again we have had a busy year supporting policing in the Division.

Specials completed some 2,700 duties, amounting to almost 15,000 hours, of which 11,750 hours provided an additional uniformed presence in the town and surrounding villages, with more than 80 arrests made.

We have also continued with our commitment to policing Colchester United FC matches. The Division also provided support during the tragic air crash at Little Hallingbury and the Stansted hi-jack.

Officers responded well and applied their training effectively to a wide range of tasks.

In addition, Specials were proactive in their approach to drink driving, being instrumental in the running of initiatives in the rural areas as well as the town.

Apart from this obviously high level of dedication and commitment, which has remained unchanged, the policing style of the division has seen the formation of com-

munity police teams.

The Special Constabulary has responded positively to this change, forming their own teams to align with the urban and rural teams.

While still in its infancy, the Special Constabulary has seen the success of allocation to the new roles.

We have recently seen the culmination of a lot of work by Colin Shead who has been supported by regular officers and HQ departments in the running of the Special Constabulary the use of Land-Rover, sponsored by dealer Mr Owen. (See article on page 5)

Colchester Specials have seen a change in leadership and team work. The Three Colchester groups were able to exercise their abilities in unfamiliar territory. A valuable learning experience for all involved.

Finally, as I prepare to retire, I would like to thank all my colleagues for their support and wish every success for the future.

A/DO Derek Hopkins

DO Bob Storrar

Increasing demands on time

TENDRING

THE PAST year has been quite difficult for Tendring Division due to the increasing demands on our time and the diminishing manpower levels.

We now have about 50 officers in the division, which is a loss of ten since last May.

Activities within the division include the continuation of the ID parade initiative run by BS Gillian Cuny with a small team of experienced Specials.

Campaign

The Walton section headed by A/SO Lynn Fennessy has been active this year with various action plans including a summer drink/driving campaign where 105 vehicles were stopped and four drivers charged under Section 5 of the Road Traffic Act.

The campaign was repeated at Christmas with 128 vehicles stopped with nine drivers reported and 18 vehicles found to have defects.

Harwich section under new Section Officer Mick Deba has

also suffered in the manpower stakes but this has not stopped them providing an increasingly proactive approach in an area which is getting busier all the time.

On a sadder note a shadow was cast over the section when recently retired BS Keith Wall died of asbestosis at the age of 50. The funeral was attended by many regulars and Special officers with a Guard of Honour outside the church.

Clacton has provided a seemingly never ending series of changes which included the new east and west community beat teams to replace the old four shift system.

This new system sees the regular and Special officers working more closely together and despite a few hiccups we are hopeful that it will settle down and prove beneficial.

A higher profile

BASILDON

IT DOES not seem like 12 months since I was last asked to contribute to this *Special Edition*, probably because 1999 was such a busy year at Basildon.

This year we have not had as many requests for divisional duties as such, but one exercise we have been involved in is the ongoing exercise called Operation Broadlands.

Each week one section works with the community liaison officer in targeting a residential area, promoting the postcoding of personal property.

This should help reduce burglaries, give the Specials a higher profile in the neighbourhood when they meet the public and hopefully bringing in some new recruits.

From April recruitment open evenings are planned for Billericay and Wickford and

although these are not isolated communities, they do have their own identities and will give potential applicants a better idea of what is expected of them within their location.

A word of thanks to colleagues at Rayleigh Division for their support in policing last year's Wickford Carnival.

This always seems to be the same weekend as the Barleylands steam rally in Billericay, when Basildon Division has its busiest weekend.

Bernie Butler, who won the Norman Dooley Trophy last year, is well and enjoying his retirement but misses the buzz of being a Special.

Finally, a personal well done to those officers collecting various awards. You only get out what you put in.

DO Wally Bones

New shift system gives more flexibility

CHELMSFORD

THE Special Constabulary in Chelmsford Division has undergone a year of change, with the appointment of two new section officers - Andy Wells and Adam Pipe - and a number of officers leaving to join the regulars.

One of the biggest events we were involved in was the annual V99 concert, held in Hylands Park. There was a lot of support from our officers, many attending both days. We undertook traffic control, car park duty, high visibility patrols, town centre patrols and plain-clothes patrols.

Last year also saw the introduction of specialist traffic training, with hand-held radar and GATSO devices. There are now eight officers in the divi-

sion able to operate this equipment unassisted.

The millennium celebrations saw Chelmsford Specials on duty throughout the period.

The four shift system worked by regular officers was reviewed at the start of the year, a pilot study looking at changing the pattern to 11-hour days. The Specials work the same shift patterns and therefore the divisional supervisors needed to look for the way forward for each station.

Chelmsford Division Special Constables were called out to both the serious major incidents at Stansted Airport, first the December Korean Air crash and secondly the high

profile hi-jack in February, for which our officers were helped to provide security at the LEC.

What some people thought would be a two day task turned into 10 day - 24 hour a day request for officers, which we were again able to meet, showing the continued level of enthusiasm and commitment of the Special Constabulary.

On April 1 the proposed shift changes came into force and at Chelmsford Town we saw a new structure to the Special Constabulary.

The four shifts, were merged into two teams, one to provide 17 officers for divisional shift support and the other to provide 17 officers for pro-active work.

This arrangement has some

flexibility as officers will be able to work with other teams.

However by creating a core of officers for each team, supervisors have an easier task of allocating administrative duties.

Finally Chelmsford officers are among the first in the county to attend the new DAC course for those officers holding driving permits.

Initial feedback shows it is both worthwhile and instructive.

All in all it had been another busy year for Chelmsford Specials and I hope that this year will be as rewarding for all concerned.

Well done and keep up the good work.

DO Brian Moye

Special day



AS PART of the annual National Specials recruitment fortnight, officers from Thurrock division joined up with officers from Kent, Surrey and Metropolitan forces joining recruitment centre

taking a lead in making Essex safer

for every Division

Positive attitude helpful

THURROCK

THIS year has seen Thurrock Special Constabulary go from strength to strength.

Not so much in the number of officers, with just 23 covering five sections, but due to a positive thinking divisional command team, who have striven to make our officers an integrated and key part of their resources.

Structured training is now delivered by the divisional tutor unit which ensures that professional standards are achieved when officers carry out their operational tasks.

This combination has led to improved motivation, morale and an overall increase in duty hours contributed by our officers and helped to provide the focus to achieve the divisions objectives in the annual plan.

Thurrock officers have supported their regular colleagues on several operations both covert and high profile.

These operations have seen reductions in problems such as youth nuisance, under age drinking and car crime.

In addition some Special Constabulary officers, in conjunction with their section supervisors, have formulated action plans to tackle local problems and their implementation has been well supported by their regular colleagues.

The action plans developed

by officers were keenly monitored by the local media, which in turn generated free advertising for the Special Constabulary and several requests were received from members of the public to attend our divisional recruitment open evenings.

We are now looking forward to an interesting and productive year and increasing our numbers with new quality officers.

In conclusion, in my role as acting divisional officer, I should like to thank all officers for their valuable contribution and continuing support.

A/DO Dave Hills

New boundaries policed

G DIVISION Specials have had a memorable year.

The border changes at Epping Forest, where we have taken over the old Metropolitan Police area, has resulted in a new fourth section at Loughton and a larger Epping Section which now includes Waltham Abbey and Upshire.

Few existing Met Special Constables from Loughton or Waltham Abbey have transferred into Essex and therefore some officers from Epping have moved to the new location to help form the basis of the Special Constabulary at these stations.

The past year started with the annual North Weald Airshow in May; a big commitment where Specials from as far away as Clacton are brought in to assist.

HARLOW

This was followed by many fetes, village carnivals etc, many of which are policed entirely by the Special Constabulary.

Later in the year Harlow, Brentwood and Epping policed their local firework processions; for Epping this is a heavy commitment requiring a total of 18 officers from an establishment of 22.

These events were closely followed by Remembrance Day parades across the division, where Specials again organised the policing.

G Division Specials were called upon to help at the air crash at Stansted and also the hi-jack!

Their help was required in several areas, some helping to cover local areas, where regular officers were involved at the scene, several helping at HQ and others assisting with traffic control.

What a roller coaster year

RAYLEIGH

always, was colourful and the atmosphere was outstanding.

Also the fun run was yet again a complete success. This event was organised and policed entirely by the Special Constabulary and it raised a large amount of money for a children's charity.

The taxi run, organised by taxi drivers, who take under privileged children to Clacton for the day was one event that brought tears to the eyes.

We were asked to police the route and ensure safe passage for the large number of decorated taxis as they passed through our division. It all helped to make a great day out as the smiling faces confirmed.

On a more serious note there was the incident attended by Sc Lee Francis from Canvey who attended a disturbance at a nightclub and discovered a youth lying on the floor with a serious stab wound.

Sc Francis administered first aid by applying direct pressure to stem the flow of blood. He reassured the youth and assisted the paramedics until arrival at hospital, but sadly the youth died.

On another occasion the divisional support team assisted by Scs Lane, Hadlow, Barrick and Lombardi attend-

ed a pub and prevented a potentially serious incident by helping disarm and arrested a man who was wielding a five-foot Samurai sword.

We have supported the regular officers and been involved with work from many departments including the dog unit, marine, pro active unit as well as schools liaison and domestic violence units; which certainly keeps us busy.

This year three officers collect their long service awards. They are Sc Mark Broad, Sc Eddie Bye, both nine years and Parish Sc Janet Fletcher for 19 years' service.

We would like to thank them all for their dedicated service to the Special Constabulary.

Finally we would like to pay tribute to DO Reg Trowers who resigned from the Specials in February. A change of job and new work location meant that he could no longer commit his time to the Specials.

We all wish him well in his new venture and thank him for his past service.

We also offer a vote of thanks to all the officers throughout Rayleigh Division for their outstanding commitment in the past year.

A/DO Terry Hills and
A/SO Mandy Parsons

at Bluewater



to hold a one-day at Bluewater shop-ent. With the four together it gave a big-

ger impact to promoting the Special Constabulary. Overall the day was a success with many inquiries from potential new recruits to all forces.

Busy on coast

THE last year of the 20th century has been a busy and productive year for Southend Division, particularly as the new sector policing structure has now come fully into effect.

This has provided, among other things, new and rewarding challenges.

Over the past 12 months the division has continued to support Southend Council's environmental health department by assisting their noise nuisance unit, commonly known as Hotel Oscar 2, or to the cynics "party poopers".

Equally, over the same period, the division has supported the regular force by providing a unit to cover every Southend United football match. Again, cynics may say that the division's football unit have performed more consistently than United on the pitch.

During the year the division has undertaken a number of special events, including Southend Carnival, Southend Water Festival, Airshow and

SOUTHEND

Leigh Regatta.

A number of officers on the division have displayed outstanding dedication to duty, including a Leigh officer who in January of last year assisted a number of regular police officers at an incident in Westcliff, which ultimately prevented a man carrying a realistic replica MP5 sub machine gun from harming himself.

The Special officer's actions and indeed his bravery, resulted in him and the other officers involved receiving commendations from the Chief Constable, for their dedication, bravery and professionalism.

They have also been nominated for other national bravery awards (see page 9).

DO Steve Carr

Numbers down

STANSTED AIRPORT

The division also assisted at the North Weald and Southend Air Shows in 1999.

Whilst we were not requested to help following the recent hi-jacking at Stansted, the division, assisted by officers from Harlow and Braintree divisions, was heavily involved in the initial aftermath of the Korean Air Boeing 747 crash just before Christmas.

All of our officers turned out at very short notice to assist with the crowds in the airport terminal, who were delayed as a result of the temporary closure of the runway.

As it was only a couple of days before Christmas, the airport was at its busiest and our thanks go to the other divisions who assisted at this time.

DO Tony Butcher

taking a lead in making Essex safer

Norman Dooley Trophy awarded for officer's diligence

Lena's a real gem



● Norman Dooley Trophy winner A/BS Lena Worrow

A DESIRE to reunite owners with their stolen jewellery and a thoroughly professional attitude has earned Acting Beat Supervisor Lena Worrow the Norman Dooley Trophy this year.

Lena has been a Special Constable with Tendring Division for only two years, but in that short time she has received praise for her thorough dealing of cases and situations.

She was very surprised and shocked to hear that she had won the award as she did not know that she had been nominated.

One particular case was cited in her nomination. She

by Helen Cook

was on duty at Clacton airfield in August last year when a couple told her that they recognised jewellery on a stall that had been stolen from their home in a recent burglary.

Lena arrested the stall holders and spent the rest of the day and evening with CID interviewing the stall holders and dealing with the property.

Lena then arranged, via the local media, three dates for the jewellery to be viewed by anyone who had recently been burgled.

Grateful

Through her persistence and hard work property from eight burglaries in the Clacton area, about 120 items, were returned to their grateful owners.

They included an engagement and wedding ring that the owners thought they would never see again.

Lena, 21, has two part-

time local jobs but loves the job of Special constable.

She enjoys working with people and is also involved with St John Ambulance and is a Scout leader.

Since she was a very small child her ambition was to join the police and her work with the Special Constabulary has given her an excellent insight into the job and plenty of experience working with and helping people.

She said: "I would like to thank BS Ron Gentry and Inspector David Appleby who have helped me a lot over the last two years."

Lena works approximately 100 hours a month for the Special Constabulary, but even with her busy life she still managed to complete a sponsored tandem sky dive last year, which raised money for the police and Special Constabulary benevolent fund.

Lena Worrow has been awarded the Norman Dooley Trophy not only for her service and commitment but also for her professionalism throughout the stolen jewellery inquiry.

Win for Rayleigh in cup

RAYLEIGH Division is this year's winner of the Salter Cup, awarded for the division performing the highest number of duties in the year.

After being pipped at the post by Chelmsford Division last year, Rayleigh came top with 281 points.

They will receive the trophy at the Long Service Awards ceremony, on Sunday, May 14, when 20 officers with a total 208 years' service will be honoured.

Two officers will receive their second bar marking 29 years of service, they are DO Robert Storrar, Tendring and Sc Reginald Smith, Harlow.

Receiving their first bar for 19 years' service are DO John Salmon and SO Derek Hopkins, Braintree; BS Paul Bradley and Sc David Rayner, Southend; Sc Michael O'Callaghan, Tendring and Sc Janet Fletcher, Rayleigh.

Receiving the long service medal for nine years are SO Mark Barham, Sc Neil Hopkins, Sc Helen Pudney, SO Colin Shead, BS Shane Underwood and Sc James Williams from Colchester; Sc Mark Broad and Sc Edwin Bye, Rayleigh; Sc Richard Brophy, Stansted Airport; Sc Brian Dahle, Harlow; Sc Amanda Faint, Tendring and BS Alexander Horne from Braintree.

A special Essex welcome

ON April 1 Essex Police became responsible for policing all of Epping Forest District Council area, acquiring police stations at Waltham Abbey and Loughton.

Unfortunately very few former Metropolitan Police Special constables moved to Essex Police and this required some speedy recruitment in the new areas.

Inspector Ivor Harvey, based at Loughton, is the Divisional Liaison Officer for the Special Constabulary and he is delighted that four new Specials have been recruited to work in the Loughton section, which covers Buckhurst Hill, Chigwell and The Broadway.

The new officers will be assigned to community team officers, who will tutor them for their first year.

Some Special constables have transferred from other



● Inspector Ivor Harvey with four new Special constables Arif Saddique, 29; Karl Wicks, 18; Malcolm Price, 28 and Peter Vane, 18 outside Loughton Police station.

stations, including Sarah Hallard, Beat Supervisor who came from Epping to help set up the section.

There are ten operational Specials but Inspector Harvey hopes for 20 to have been recruited by the end of the year.

He said: "It is a very excit-

ing time here at Loughton and I am delighted with the four new recruits, they are young and enthusiastic.

"I think that the Specials are brilliant, anyone who volunteers to do this job unpaid is indeed "special" and deserves our full support."

Tribute to Karen

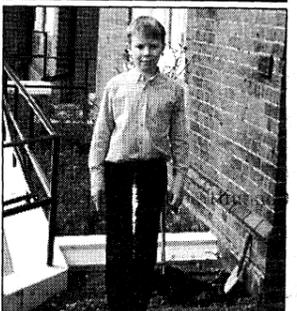
KAREN McConnachie joined the Special Constabulary in June 1996 and died in July 1999.

While based at Saffron Walden, she earned the respect of her colleagues in the Special Constabulary and the regulars as a keen officer who did a good job.

She worked with Pc Doug Perry on many shifts and he

and Sgt Mike Klisky arranged for a small plaque and a rose bush to be planted outside Saffron Walden Police Station, in her memory.

Karen's son Adam, pictured right, was among the guests, including friends and colleagues, who attended the small ceremony to unveil the plaque last month.



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Town's safety forum

THE South Woodham Ferrers Community Safety Forum has been set up with the aim of bringing together local organisations and statutory bodies to work in partnership towards a safer and healthier community.

South Woodham Ferrers Police has supported the forum, which can be contacted via the police station in Tylers Ride.

Current community projects being discussed include a young drivers' safety evening; the efficient reporting of vandalism and graffiti; road safety; bogus callers and drug awareness.

Any local group or organisation interested in sending a representative should contact chair Maureen Moulds on 01245 321908, or e-mail SafetyForum@smithswf.free serve.co.uk.

Museum pins are popular

THE Force museum has produced a limited edition tie pin.

The subject of the pin is a caricature of Chief Constable McHardy.

The original drawing is on display in the Museum and was drawn by the military cartoonist, 'Doggy'.

The pins are limited to 1000 copies, each on a numbered display card.

It will sell for £1.25 and will be available through the Museum curator, Elizabeth Farnhill or Pc Ray Howard, Braintree Help Desk.

There has been a great deal of interest shown in the pin and a number of orders have already been taken.

It will be available from the beginning of June.

Advance orders are being taken by Pc Howard and can be placed by e-mail to ray.howard@essex.police.uk.

Commended for their actions

CHIEF Constable David Stevens has presented certificates of commendation to mark the exceptional actions of three police officers, a traffic warden and a member of the public, at a recent ceremony.

Pc Anthony Roll, of Braintree was commended for rescuing a man locked in a fume filled garage with the car engine running.

He forced entry by bending the garage door and pulled the unconscious man outside.

The man was taken to hospital where he made a full recovery.

Pc Jonathan Meggison and **Pc John Summerfield**, based at Walton,

were commended for their actions in October last year.

They attended an incident in the early hours at Walton on the Naze, where a woman suffering from mental illness had entered the sea.

The woman walked out of her depth and she submerged herself several times.

The two officers entered to sea and, despite the woman struggling, were able to bring her back to safety.

Traffic Warden Roy Knott and **Mr Grant Colville**, a member of the public, of Southend, were commended for their actions in August 1999, when they spotted a swimmer in trouble and

shouting for assistance.

They both entered the sea and swam out to the swimmer and aided him until the arrival of the lifeboat.

Without their intervention, in what were quite treacherous waters, the incident could easily have ended in the loss of life.

In addition to these commendations, Mr Stevens also presented National Neighbourhood Watch Association awards to two Essex NHW co-ordinators, to mark their sterling work for the voluntary organisation.

They went to **Mr Gerald Wallington-Hayes**, of Dovercourt and to **Mr Richard Bills**, of Hockley.

Nominated for bravery

FIVE Essex officers have been nominated jointly for the annual Police Bravery Awards, organised by the Police Federation and the Sun newspaper.

Essex Police Federation has nominated the five officers, who are all from Southend Division, for their actions during a firearms incident in January, 1999.

They are **PC Mark Beaumont**, **PC Patrick Lyons**, **PC Steve Catton**, **PC Christopher Abbott** and **Special Constable Karl Help**.

They were called to an incident which began with



● The five brave officers pictured after receiving their commendations from Chief Constable David Stevens.

Photo: HQ Photographic

a report of a man with a machine gun in the garden of a house in Westcliff. The first two officers on the scene found the man and his mother struggling on the stairs. As more officers arrived, the 21-year-old man pointed the weapon at them. The officers backed off and removed the mother for her own safety. The gunman re-emerged, making threats, and when he low-

ered the weapon PC Beaumont moved forward and seized it.

The gun turned out to be a realistic-looking replica MP5 carbine. The man was arrested and detained under the Mental Health Act.

The five officers were later presented with a Chief Constable's Commendation and also received Southend Borough Council's Mitchell

Certificate for their bravery.

Their divisional commander, Supt Mike Benning, said: "They were in a difficult situation and had to think on their feet for the sake of public safety. The officers acted very bravely."

The Police Federation/Sun national bravery award winner will be announced at a ceremony in London on June 15

Security award for listed building

HYLANDS House, at Hylands Park, Chelmsford, is believed to be the first conservation project ever to be awarded a Secured by Design certificate, following refurbishment work by Chelmsford Borough Council.

Up to date security measures were incorporated into the refurbishment scheme for the grade 2, star listed house and grounds.

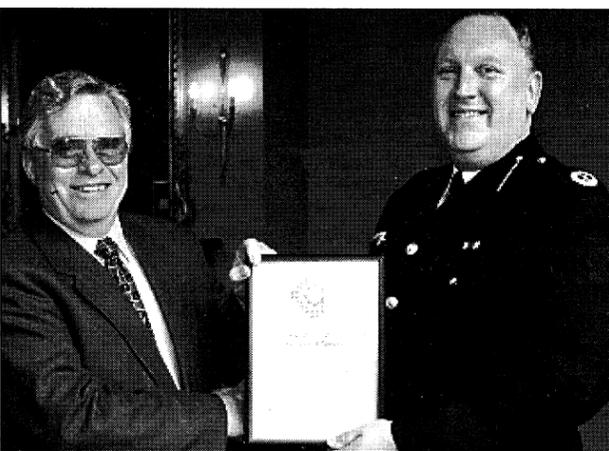
In recognition of the security measures, Assistant Chief Constable John Broughton handed over the certificate to Councillor Ian Roberts, Chairman of the Leisure Committee for Chelmsford

Borough Council at Hylands House recently.

Not to be outdone the Chelmsford Community Safety Partnership which comprises the Borough, County Council and Essex Police also received an award, again believed to be the first of its kind, a Charter Mark commendation Certificate.

Excellence

The certificate, signed by the Prime Minister is the Government's award scheme for recognising and encouraging excellence in public service, focusing on results and customer service.



● ACC John Broughton, right, hands over the certificate to Cllr Ian Roberts.

Retired civilians wanted

IF you are a retired Essex Police civilian and are in receipt of an Essex County Council pension, the welfare department wants to hear from you.

By completing and returning the form below, you will enable welfare to update their records for the Chief Constable's Garden Party invitations.

Name.....
 Address.....
 Tel No.....
 Date of retirement.....
 Please forward to Welfare, Essex Police Headquarters, PO Box 2, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 6DA. Tel: 01245 452990

For display advertising in The Law contact United Press on 01282 459533

Designs on the force

Tendring Commander

ESSEX Police has a new graphic designer. The appointment of 31-year-old Gavin Leather answers a long-time need within the organisation for someone with these skills.

Requests for logos, posters, leaflets and a myriad of other items have until now gone to the Public Relations department, with often no way of dealing with them.

Gavin, from Long Stratton, Norfolk, was appointed at the end of April, joining Essex Police from South Norfolk Council.

He will work on all new design projects, including displays for the new exhibition trailer, for recruitment and the museum, logos for specialist departments, posters and much of the corporate information produced. Gavin will also be taking over the forms administration role from Terry Anderson, who has retired.

Corporate

It will be part of Gavin's role to ensure that the rules relating to maintaining a strong corporate identity are adhered to.

Even though Gavin is a force resource, all requests for work must go through public relations officer Tina Starling, on ednet 50770.

If the job can be printed within the organisation no budget code will be needed, but if it is a large job to be printed outside, then a budget code is required.

THE new Divisional Commander for Tendring is Supt Patrick Rice.

Supt Rice, formerly head of Community Safety Department, at Headquarters, took up his appointment on May 2, succeeding Supt Mick Hicks, who has retired.

Det Insp Roger Cattermole, of Colchester Child Protection Unit, retires at the end of the month, after more than 31 years' service.

Insp Andy Down, Colchester, has retired after more than 30 years' service.

Officers retiring with 30 years' service are Maldon-based Pc John Child, Thorpe Traffic's Pc Peter Bareham and Epping-based Pc David Sims.

Names in the news



● Supt Patrick Rice, Tendring Divisional Commander.

Chelmsford Traffic's Pc Peter Baker has retired after almost 26 years' service.

Ill health has led to the retirement of Rayleigh-based Insp Philip Saunders, after 26 years.

Also retiring on medical grounds are Dc Michael Sear, Basildon, with almost 27 years' service; Pc William Lang, Harlow, 21 years and Pc Simon Gallie, Braintree, 30 years.

Obituaries

The death has occurred, aged 80, of ex-Chief Insp Thomas Whalley, who served with Southend Borough Police from 1948-76. He was living in Scotland at the time of his death and leaves a widow, Christine.

Retired Sgt John Swinbourn has died, aged 73. He served from 1948 to 1879 at Grays, Earls Colne, Saffron Walden and Clacton. He is survived by his wife, Ivy.

Former Sgt Ian Batson has died at the age of 73. He served from 1962 to 1987 at Harlow, Billericay, Colchester, Epping and Stansted Airport and leaves a widow, Joan.

Retired Sgt Kenneth Tait has died, aged 58. He served at Grays, Harlow, Newport Traffic and Saffron Walden. He leaves a widow, Maureen.

Anthony Everett, who joined Essex Police in 1989 as a part-time gardener at HQ, has died, aged 55.

W. Indies cruises offer for EPSA members

ONCE again the Force Sports Secretary has arranged some Caribbean Cruises for EPSA members.

Departure dates are January, February and March 2001.

The cruises are for 11 nights and prices start from only £759 (normally £1,200).

Flights

This includes scheduled return flights from London, transfers, full 11 night cruise, sharing inside twin cabin, full board, evening entertainment, all taxes and destination folio.

If you are tempted to experience the delightful islands of the West Indies and the Virgin Isles, then get your application form from John Stonehouse on extension 58888.

Canadian dates to aid charity

MEMBERS of the Essex Police Choir are performing in Canada this month as guests of the Greater Victoria Police Chorus.

Thirty singers from Essex and members of the Bedfordshire Police Folk Lore group, have flown to British

Essex Police Choir

Columbia to perform in a series of concerts.

The two choirs will also be joined by the Royal Ulster Constabulary Male Voice Choir for four concerts to be held in aid of the Canadian charity, Cops for Cancer.

This is the second time the Essex Police Choir, which celebrated its tenth anniversary last year, has performed in

Canada.

The first visit, in 1993, included not only Essex and Greater Victoria Police but also the Royal Hong Kong Police Choir.

Success

Their return trip to Essex in 1995 was a tremendous success and the cross-Atlantic friendship has continued.

A party of 58 singers and partners left Heathrow on April 30 for the two week trip.

The Canadian hosts have organised various sightseeing trips and social events for the visitors including an official dinner with the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia.

Much of the organisation on the Essex side has been arranged by Choir member, Peter Crook.

Musical Director, Norman Eastbrook, based at Police Headquarters said: "This is a great opportunity for us to meet with old friends and sing in some fantastic venues."

"We've all been looking forward to the trip and hope that we'll make new friends who'll come to Essex and sing with us again."

The four concerts will give the combined choirs the chance to sing together as well as performing highlights from their own repertoires.

Were you lucky?

THE result of the April lottery is as follows:

£1,500 Pc Andrew Gibson, HQ FIR; £1,000 Ps V A Faccini, Brentwood; £500 Rick Tazzini, HQ Finance; £300 A Butcher, HQ Firearms; £200 Pc P R Spurgeon, Colchester; £100 Pc P G Osborne, Rayleigh Traffic.

The following have won £50 consolation prizes:

ACC Joe Edwards, HQ; Pc M Holloway, Laindon Traffic; Pc B D Brooker, Rayleigh Traffic; L M Blakesley, Chelmsford; C S Pollington, Tendring; Pc A M Jones, Brentwood; Pc E Fuller, Maldon; Ps M D Bell, Southend; Pc C M Hallett, Southend; M G Goldsworthy, Colchester.

Market Place

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Name and rank

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Send to The Editor, The Law, Press Office, Essex Police Headquarters.

Only adverts from those directly connected to Essex Police (either serving or retired) will be accepted. Adverts should be restricted to a maximum of 24 words and repeat ads

ALFA Romeo T.Spark Sport, tax and MOT, 53,400 miles; £5,700. Contact Ps Jan Adcock, tel 0973 851270 or 0973 384139.

CARAVAN Elddis Hurricane XL 1994, two berth, shower, toilet, awning etc. Excellent condition. One owner. £4,000. Mike Smith 01279 865873 or extn 23135.

CHILD'S bike, 'Spellbound' purple/white, with handlebar pouch, as new. Suit 5-6 year old. £50 ono. Tracey Howard, 01702 555048.

CORNWALL - Polperro. Chalet, sleeps 4/5. All mod cons. On pleasant site, with heated indoor and outdoor pools. Club and all facilities included. £75-£250 p.w. Craig Bailey, tel 01279 653570, or 01279 832837.

DOG cage for Mondeo Estate. Heavy gauge, folds flat, single door, £140 ono. P J Yorke-Wade, tel 01702 545934.

FORD Fiesta 1.1 Pop Plus, 12 months MOT, tax June 2000. Sunroof, radio cassette, five owners, some S/H. Fair £500 ono. Tel 01255 814016.

FLORIDA. Luxury villa, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, sleeps 8, own swimming pool, ten mins from Disney and

other attractions. For colour brochure contact Jim Tarbox, tel 01375 403890.

ORLANDO. Luxury villa, four bedrooms, three bathrooms, sleeps up to 10. Private screened pool. Near Disney and other central Florida attractions. For more details tel 01376 573406.

SCOTTISH Highlands. Self-catering in a new one-bed bungalow, a four-bed bungalow or alternatively, stay at our Austrian-style home on a B and B or full board basis, by the day or week. Skiing, fishing, shooting, walking, bird watching, or just relaxing. Contact Andy Nunn, on 01479 841717.

SEATON, Devon. Detached cedarwood chalet, on small select park. Heated and fully-equipped. Two bedrooms. Full details on request. Tel 01404 891188.

VAUXHALL Frontera 2.0i L reg. White, alloys, electric windows, alarm, immobiliser, sunroof, radio cassette. VGC. 68,000 miles. Six months' MOT. £6,500. Tel. 07712 376790 or extn 40429, TWC Bobbie Garrad.

Basildon memories sought by Marion

WHAT'S Basildon to you?

Did you live or work in the Basildon area during the last century?

Have you got any photographs or stories you could share?

Photographs

Marion Hill, author of 'Basildon in Old Photographs', published

last year and such a success it has almost sold out, is compiling a new book to be called 'A Century of Basildon'.

Deadlines are tight, but if you can help, contact her on tel. 01908 551579, fax 01908 551081 or e-mail: marionh@btclick.com

Law letters

Continued from page 4

Many thanks for the gifts

MAY I through *The Law* ask you to pass on my appreciation and grateful thanks to all those who attended my recent leaving do and the magnificent gifts presented to me and the flowers for my wife Sherry.

It is re-assuring and comforting to see so many faces and meet so many people who have supported me through the years and for whom I hold a great deal of respect.

Essex Police is a changing organisation that has been good to me over the past 30 years and it must never be forgotten that it is the people that make it great and the success that it is.

It is without doubt the comradeship that I will miss, but I will have many happy memories to take with me when sailing.

Again many thanks,
Mick and Sherry Gurden, Chelmsford.

An honour to serve

I HAVE read with interest the correspondence of a whinging nature in past issues.

I wish to add from a standpoint of 30-30 Club membership (that is 30 in and 30

plus out).

My assessment of the job is that I was fortunate to have had the honour and good fortune to have served in the Constabulary with so many good colleagues and I

may say excellent conditions of service.

Some of the conditions were brought about by dedicated representation on behalf of the membership by elected personnel.

When trying to assess the present-day situation, always remember the saying: 'Things aren't like they used to be - they never were you know'.

Archie Rickwood, Southend

The wheel keeps turning

AS a member of the public for the past six years, I work in a job which takes me all around Essex, but I never see patrol vehicles parked up at the roadside.

With the problems of the apparent lack of policing in the community and country all too well aware of, I have thought of a good idea.

Why not have police officers

living in the country, say in houses with the office attached?

I seem to think in my travels over the past couple of years I have seen houses like these for sale!

Someone take note. Remember the big wheel it keeps turning around.

Ex Pc Ken Howard, Chelmsford.

A prosecution first after death crash

A FRENCH haulage contractor has been jailed for 18 months, following a fatal road crash two years ago.

Forty-year-old lorry driver John Jaggs, from Ruskington, Lincs died in the crash, which occurred in March 1998, on the M11 motorway near Little Hallingbury.

Mr Jaggs was driving a Scania articulated goods vehicle which drifted onto the hard shoulder and collided with a Mercedes lorry and a service vehicle.

The Mercedes had suffered a puncture and was being repaired when the collision occurred. As a result, Mr Jaggs was killed and the tyre fitter received serious leg injuries.

Accident investigators were called to the scene and an in-depth investigation began.

As a result, the operator of the lorry, Francois Thoron, who traded as Euroreefer of Boston, Lincs, was charged with various offences.

These included making false records; conspiring with other drivers, including the deceased, to make false records and in a unique police prosecution, with failing to ensure the safety of his employees, which is an offence under the Health and Safety Act.

Tired

After a five-week trial at Chelmsford Crown Court which ended last month, Thoron was found guilty of nine charges.

In sentencing Judge Hawkesworth said: "It goes without saying that tired drivers are a clear danger to themselves and other road users.

"You controlled and corrupted John Jaggs; you controlled and cajoled other drivers with the threat that they could lose their jobs.

"Your systems directly resulted in the death of John

Jaggs. I need to send a clear message to other haulage companies and drivers."

Thoron was jailed for 18 months for the conspiracy charge and for all other charges six months concurrent. There was no separate sentence for the Health and Safety charge, as only a financial penalty is possible.

The Judge also commended the prosecution barristers for their professional presentation of the case and the police team for their thorough investigation of the death.

Supt Doug Adams, head of Mobile Support Division, said: "This case sends out a clear message to all hauliers and drivers.

"I ask that they consider this case before they choose to offend. Essex Traffic Police are committed to prosecute operators and drivers who chose to ignore the rules of road safety which they are governed by".

Police drivers' training

● From page 1.

Courses involving Personnel Carriers, VIP, Tactical Pursuit and Containment (TPAC) and Off-Road driving remain unchanged.

Sergeant Mark Bird is implementing the new sys-

tem. He said: "The new programme follows a review which was designed to identify changes to driver training, ensuring best value and improving efficiency and effectiveness whilst being in line with the needs of Essex Police."

The new training programme begins, following familiarisation of instructors, on June 5.

A policy guideline on both the new driving courses and a change in driving categorisation will be published in the near future.

Fitness wins day in PAA 10k race

IN place of the usual half marathon, the SEPAA/Eastern PAA held a 10k championship, in conjunction with a local race at Seaford, on the Sussex coast.

A field of more than 300 runners was boosted by competitors from Kent, Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire and Essex Police Services.

Team

Disappointingly, with only three entrants, Essex were one short of the number required for the team to score.

Indoor Games success

● From page 12

Although playing well, the clinical finishing of her opponent Pauline Donat, Met, was too much and Lindsey lost two legs to one.

Lindsey then teamed up with Nichola Twist, Southend and both did well to reach the ladies' doubles final, missing

Wet and windy weather, coupled to a course hilly to the extreme, ensured that fast times were never likely.

However, Essex captain Mick Bond displayed his fitness by winning the overall police title (10th in the open race), ahead of his younger rivals.

The other Essex runners were Vic Spain (32nd) and Steve King (169th).

Kent claimed their third team championship of the year.

out 2-0 in legs against the north eastern representatives.

Although not winning a trophy, the darts team should rightly be proud of their achievement in reaching the national championships and having representatives in two finals.

Family fun day date set

ON Sunday July 9 Essex Police is holding a Millennium Family Day to help local charities raise money for their own appeals.

It will be held on the sports ground at headquarters between 11am and 5pm.

Arena events and other activities will take place throughout the day, followed by a band concert in the evening.

Further details about the day will be published nearer the time.

Charities

Public Relations Officer Tina Starling said: "We are appealing to divisions, individuals and charities to raise money for their own special causes."

If you or anyone you know is interested in having a stall at this event please contact Tina on 01245 452395, Ednet 50770, or e-mail her on tina.starling@essex.police.uk

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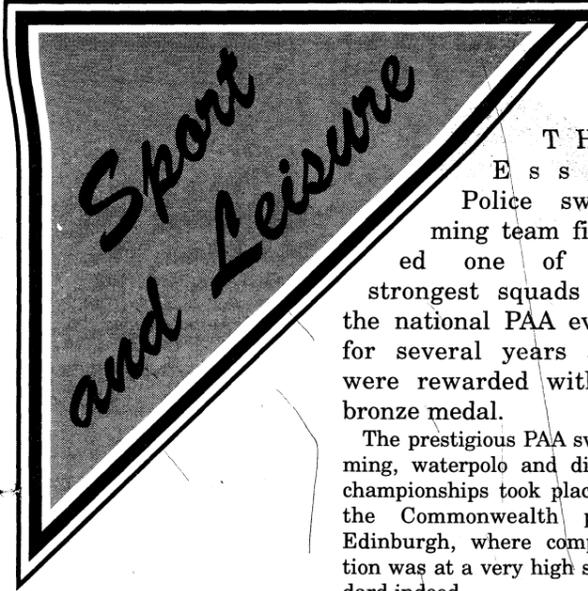


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Essex beat champs

ESSEX beat defending champions West Midlands at the PAA 10km Race Walking Championship, at Tally Ho, Birmingham, on a cold, wet afternoon.

All four Essex competitors - Denis Sheppard, Basildon; Steve King, Colchester; Vic Spain, Basildon and Pete Ryan, Brentwood - were also selected to represent the British Police team in the annual match against the civil service.

On a six lap parkland course in central Birmingham, the race started with marathon specialist Vic Spain battling with Steve King, the pair finishing seventh and ninth respectively.

Up front, Pete Ryan, racing with top civil service walkers, finished second police finisher and the dependable Denis Sheppard finished fourth.

However, for Essex to beat West Midlands on their own ground left us with a big smile on our faces, especially after the excellent buffet.

Vic Spain said afterwards that the transition from running to race walking was easier than he had expected. Once he had completed the first two laps, he had the technique mastered.

Anyone interested in taking up the challenge next year should contact Steve King, at Colchester.

Following the recent passing of John Hedgethorn, who introduced many enthusiasts in the force to race walking, it has been decided to hold a special walk in his memory.

As the police walk is held alongside the Essex Racewalking League walks, it has been necessary to alter the date of the Croker Cup event, which will now take place in January 2001, as a one-off, instead of in October.

Steve King

Swimmers excel in nationals

THE Essex Police swimming team fielded one of its strongest squads for the national PAA event for several years and were rewarded with a bronze medal.

The prestigious PAA swimming, water polo and diving championships took place at the Commonwealth pool, Edinburgh, where competition was at a very high standard indeed.

The Essex team consisted of:

Chris Mathlin, Wickford; Courtney Cowell, Colchester; Phil Whitehead, Pitsea; Paul

Eveleigh, EPTC; Paul Clark, Shoebury; Derek Davis, Rayleigh Marine; Neil Wilson, EPTC; Sarah Pike, Halstead; Paddy O'Toole, Colchester; Karen Mihill, Benfleet; Lindsay Jones and Melanie Bainbridge, both Southend.

Notable performances came from Paul Eveleigh and Chris Mathlin, who fought out an exciting race to finish 7th and 8th in the 400m freestyle.

Courtney Cowell reached the final of the 100m butterfly and finished a brilliant fifth and Neil Wilson won the springboard diving competition outright, with some very impressive dives from the 3m board.

Sarah Pike reached the

final of the 100m backstroke and bettered her time from the heats, finishing 8th.

The crowning glory for these championships though was the men's 4x50m medley relay event.

The Essex line-up of Chris Mathlin (backstroke), Phil Whitehead (breaststroke), Courtney Cowell (butterfly) and Paul Eveleigh (freestyle) turned in a superb performance, each team member giving his all, recording personal bests for each leg.

Essex were fourth fastest by 0.5 sec in the heats, behind third placed Cleveland.

For the final, the team gave that little bit more and finished in the third-placed bronze medal position, ahead



● The bronze medal winning Essex Police team, from left to right - Paul Eveleigh, Phil Whitehead, Courtney Cowell and Chris Mathlin.

of Cleveland by 0.38sec.

This result was particularly pleasing for Chris Mathlin,

because after 13 years of PAA swimming, this is his first ever medal or award.

Double title success

ESSEX Police gained two national titles at this year's PAA indoor games championships in Norfolk.

Dave Birkett, Chelmsford, gained his first win after an amazing 20 years of trying.

He teamed up with Julie Vansertima, HQ, in the table tennis mixed doubles final, to record a close 21-18, 21-19 win against twice previous winners Paul Gittins and Chris Foley, from Merseyside.

On the way to the final Dave and Julie beat another Merseyside pair, as well as a pair from West Midlands and the pair representing the south west, which included Greg Bridget, currently ranked in the top 100 in England.

Thrilling

Greg and Dave met in the quarter final of the men's singles, Dave having beaten previous finalist Dave Newton, from Lancashire, in a thrilling match to get to that stage.

This was a fine win for Dave over another England ranked player and required a steady nerve and some patient backhand play before he could hit forehand loop winners.

Greg - who went on to win the men's singles event - was too fast and consistent for Dave, winning in straight sets, after an entertaining game.

Dave's consolation was the mixed doubles success. Over the years he has collected a number of runners-up medals in both singles and men's doubles, but this year's



● Winning smiles - Julie Vansertima, Dave Birkett and Julie Askim after their successes at the national PAA indoor games competition.

partnership with Julie proved a championship combination.

Julie has previously been a top ranked Essex player, but hadn't played for the past eight years. Her county background and pedigree of shots were still evident and this made the partnership too strong for the opposition.

Unfortunately, Julie was not able to get the better of Kent's Julie Parker, losing narrowly in three sets in the ladies' singles quarter finals.

Julie Askim, Southend, fought out a thrilling semi-final against left-hander Sue Lang, Metropolitan Police.

Julie came back astonishingly from 15-20 down in the third set, but her five match points saved weren't enough and she lost it 21-23.

Her consolation came in

the ladies' doubles, where she teamed up with Julie Vansertima to beat Kent 21-10, 21-3 in the final.

Other Eastern region representatives from Essex were Chris Jacob, Hockley, who teamed up with Dave Birkett in the men's doubles event, reaching the quarter final stage, where they lost to Nottinghamshire in three sets.

Veterans

Chris teamed up with Mick Grout, Grays, in the veterans' doubles and they played well as a partnership, eventually going out narrowly in the quarter finals to the east Midlands pairing of Ian Sclater and Tony Wharton.

Peter Layzell represented the eastern region in the retired men's singles, but found the opposition too

strong, losing to the Mets' Dave Solman in the semi-final.

The indoor games are not just about table tennis and Essex had Eastern region representatives in the darts events.

Paul Bates and Julian Chadband, Southend, lost in the first round of the men's pairs.

This was a round robin event, involving five other regions.

Paul and Julian chalked up one win, but this was not enough to take them through to the next round.

Lindsey Jones, Southend, played very well to reach the final of the ladies' singles.

● Continued on page 11.

Triathlon date set

THE Triathlon Section of the EPSA is organising a short distance, off-road triathlon to be held at Gloucester Park, Basildon on Sunday, May 21, 2000.

The event comprises a 400m swim, followed by a 10k (6 mile) off-road cycle, finishing with a 4k (2 mile) run, which is open to police officers and support staff.

As well as the individual event, relay team entries are welcome. A team will consist of three members, each doing one element of the swim/cycle/run.

The cost is £15 for individuals and £25 per team.

For further information and entry forms, contact either Pete Bryan, (Chigwell Motorway Post, Ext. 21720), or Chris Mathlin (Wickford).

Golfing offer

THE EPSA has established a block membership of the Five Lakes Golf and Leisure Centre, near Maldon.

This fantastic venue has two golf courses, one at PGA standard, plus all the leisure facilities you would expect at a five star centre. There is a joining fee of £75 and for the leisure activities £34.01 per month subsequently, or £371 p.a. The golf fees range from £345 p.a. (seniors) to £625 for a full seven day membership. This facility is only open to full members of the EPSA. Full details from John Stonehouse, ext. 58888.

PAA selection

CHELMSFORD-based Natalie Mair has been selected to represent the British Police in a PAA Inter Association basketball competition, taking place on May 19-21, in Sheffield.