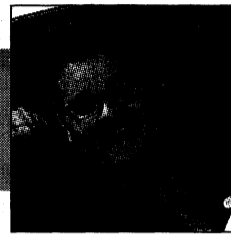


Morse makes a plea for towels - P3



Crowds turn out for Family Day - P6



Jeremy takes to the driving seat - P2

New hours result in high morale for the troops but concerns among managers

SHIFT TRIAL LEADS TO MIXED VIEWS

MIXED feelings characterise the response to the 11 hour shift trial which is nearing completion.

Officers working the extended shifts report high morale while managers have raised concerns about the flexibility and cost of the system.

by Heather Watts

Commenting on the emerging findings of three months initial data, of the six month trial, project manager Insp John Meggison said: "We are gathering data

during the trial to judge our costs and performance, compared with the same period last year, and to make comparisons between the trial divisions and other control divisions.

"Feelings in support of the system remain high among officers. Out of 350 officers currently working the trial only one officer has come forward to express

his views against the system and unsolicited letters to me have shown there is much support for the system."

Generally expressing a feel good factor among officers and high morale on shifts, officers are keen that the trial is a success.

Southend divisional commander, Supt Mick Thwaites, said: "My officers see the extended hour shift system as the key to raised morale. Motivation of the team is important and I am looking for the higher morale to achieve better performance. If it does achieve better performance I would support the new system."

However there is no evidence that operational effectiveness is enhanced and managers report that the new system is less flexible for proactive policing, and policing unplanned events.

Increased costs

There are increased costs for divisions with officers being asked to work overtime on rest days, and managers have noted that on occasion there are not enough officers willing to do this.

Supt Mick Thwaites said: "We have to meet our objectives and if high morale helps achieve that, it must be good, but if there is no flexibility to enable us to focus on those objectives the extended shift system will not be of benefit to both Essex Police and the community it serves."

Joint Branch Board Federation representative, Terry Spelman, said: "Although it would appear that officers like the extended hours shift system we are looking at some concerns that have been raised so far and feel that the trial should be extended so that any problems for our members can be identified."

Deputy Chief Constable Charles Clark said: "It has always been clear that no decision will be made until the trial period has been completed. Given the difficulty of having sufficiently detailed information to enable an objective decision to be made, and the emerging different views of managers and those working extended hours, we need to drill deeper into the overtime figures, staffing levels and similar, ensuring compliance with police regulations, before we can sensibly reach any decision. There is still much work to be done before we can say what the outcome will be."

Get me to the church on time!

WHEN an open top vintage car, taking bride-to-be Anna Bowman and her father Alan to church, broke down in traffic tailbacks following a collision in Sewardstone Road, Waltham Abbey, it was Essex Police who came to the rescue.

Their predicament was spotted by Acting Sergeant Tony Irish and Pc Neil Hare who took the couple to High Beach Church, arriving just in the nick of time.



● Bride Anna Bowman and her father Alan make it to the church on time thanks to the assistance of A/Sgt Tony Irish and Pc Neil Hare. Photo: Paul Hancock Studios

Charity cup of 'char'

IF you like a nice cup of tea and your cup of kindness runneth over, then Big Brew 2000 campaign, in support of the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association Forces Help charity, can benefit from your support.

A week long event will take place from September 18 to 24 with a special emphasis on Thursday, September 21 - 'T' Day - when it is hoped that a large number of people will make a donation for the consumption of tea.

Hoping to inspire people to run their own tea party, SSAFA are providing information packs

The charity help ex-service men and women and their families with many different needs and the Essex branch dealt with over 1,000 cases in Essex last year.

For any further information about the week, information packs or where to send donations telephone 01621 784900. Cheers!

Jeremy's star turn at special fun day



● Raring to go . . . Jeremy Sprake takes the wheel, watched by Sgt Terry Slater and 4x4 Fun Day chairman Chief Insp Dave Halsey.

TV personality Jeremy Sprake will be the celebrity guest at the annual Essex Police 4x4 Fun Day for disabled children.

Jeremy, who rose to fame in the television documentary *Airport* and lives near Colchester, will be riding off-road vehicles and taking part in other activities at the fun day to be held at the Hopwood Country Park, Petts Wood, Kent, August 31.

It will be a special day out for 98 disabled children, who this year are coming from Braintree, Chelmsford, Colchester, Southend and South Ockendon.

The fun day, which includes a barbecue, is organised by Essex Police and the Royal Military Police at Colchester and is supported by local companies.

Jeremy, who also supports Essex Air Ambulance fundraising, said: "I am looking forward to helping to give the children a memorable day. It'll be fun."

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Strike out and raise crucial cash

THIS event might be just down your alley and will raise funds for the Essex Air Ambulance Service if you take part in the 24hr Bowl-a-thon at the Edwardian Club, Billericay from noon on Saturday 30 September and Sunday 1 October.

Teams of up to six people bowl for up to two hours with each member of the team being sponsored.

For further details of the event contact Nigel Betts or Barbara on 01277 63018 or 01277 623587.

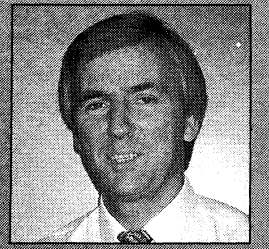
Three per cent pay rise agreed

AGREEMENT was reached at the Police Negotiating Board for a three per cent increase in pay, payable from September 1, this year.

However, the productivity claim of 12 per cent payable over the next three years remains on the table. The claim is to be discussed by a joint working party of the Official and Staff Sides of the Police Negotiating Board at the end of August under an independent Secretariat.

In force, I am aware of the Chief Constable's efforts, together with the Police Authority, to continue to make representations for an

Federation Newsline
by Terry Spelman



Outer London Allowance and, as previously stated by me, I cannot make any guess as to the outcome of any claim at this time.

Again, we are promised extra money from the Government for crime fighting but the results will take time to materialise. The recent announcement in the Comprehensive Spending Review has come after years of campaigning by

the Police Federation for more officers back on the beat.

At the moment, we are a public service in crisis. Since 1997 there has been sustained under-investment in policing resulting in thousands of fewer Officers, heavier workloads and rising crime. We are on a long road to get back to the status quo.

Offbeat

SOUTH Wales Police received an anonymous letter with a threat to sabotage the South Wales Show - which included a stamped addressed envelope with an Essex address!

● A south Essex assistant bank manager notified police after receiving a call saying a bomb had been planted in the basement. He told officers that he thought it was probably a hoax - as they don't have a basement!

● Oops sorry! Red-faced officers phoned to apologise to information room staff for setting the fire alarm off at the station, burning the toast.

But that was nothing compared to the flash in the pan at the Eurotoilet in Grays after police and fire arrived to find the toilet seat alight.

And talking of toilets and red faces. A 999 call led officers to search the sidings at Southend Victoria station after a man phoned to say he could not get off the train after having a little "drinkie" at lunchtime, before falling asleep in the toilets.

Pay talks continue

NEGOTIATIONS continue to seek an increased allowance for Essex officers who joined after September 1, 1994 following agreement on an increased London weighting allowance payable to Metropolitan officers.

Police Authority Chairs and Chief Constables of the five forces which border London met with the Police Negotiating Working Board Party last month and presented a paper to progress their case.

The paper was discussed at length with the board and its contents noted.

However it was agreed that more information was required to replicate that provided by the Metropolitan Police in preparing their case for an increased allowance.

A rigorous timetable will ensure that the Working Party has that information at the next meeting which takes place on August 7.

Chief Constable David Stevens emphasised: "Achieving adequate remuneration for all Essex Police personnel is important but my priority is to obtain proper remuneration for those officers who are the most disadvantaged. Chairman of the Police Authority, Mr Anthony Peel and I are doing everything possible to further our claim for those officers."

Specialist resources sent to Hertfordshire and Sussex Murder inquiries aided by Essex expertise

TWO outside forces called on the expertise of specialist Essex Police resources last month to assist with major inquiries.

The first was just across the border in Hertfordshire when two officers from Essex were drafted in to help with a murder investigation.

Pc Andrew Meyer, based at Basildon, and Dc David Bates, from Training Centre, were seconded for up to four weeks following the discovery of a body in Bishop's Stortford town centre in the early hours of Sunday, July 9.

The victim, Scott Newman (34) had serious head injuries and circumstances suggested a possible homosexual link.

When Hertfordshire Constabulary were unable to identify an appropriate officer to assist the inquiry, Essex Police were asked to

by Kim Perks

lend a hand.

Insp Cheryl Callow, of Staff Development, who is herself a gay officer, was asked to manage the secondment and choose the appropriate team to send across the border.

It was also her responsibility to ensure ACPO guidelines were met and liaise with PACT, a group, which has worked hard over the past few years to establish an effective system of liaison, and good working relationships, between the police and gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities in Essex.

Within a few hours of contacting PACT chairman Neil Frost, gay switchboards across the county were willing to receive confidential information about the incident and officers were put in touch with a gay organisation in Hertfordshire.

A team of outreach workers from Action for Men in Epping, who work to support the gay community and

have knowledge of local places where gay men meet, were able to start talking to men about the incident.

This paved the way for further liaison between potential witnesses and constables Meyer and Bates who were tasked with forging links with the local gay community to try and establish more about the deceased's lifestyle and sexuality, as well as assisting the inquiry team.

Mr Frost said: "I was impressed by the way Hertfordshire Constabulary welcomed the potential for our input and seemed keen to know more about the system already established in Essex."

Pc Meyer is no stranger to this kind of request having been the first and only gay officer to be specifically drafted on to an Essex murder inquiry - that of Simon Shannon in Clacton back in 1995.

He explained: "I am in no doubt it was an advantage to Hertfordshire Constabulary to use our specific knowledge and expertise. There is a tendency among many minority groups to lack confidence to communicate with authorities such as the police. Not only did people from

the gay community of Bishop's Stortford appear more at ease dealing with David and myself, it negated the need for heterosexual officers to be placed in a situation with the potential to make all parties feel uncomfortable and therefore close down communication."

Senior investigating officer, Det Supt Bob Saunders, said: "Their work was of vital importance to the inquiry and I am grateful to them and Essex Police for assisting the investigation."

A local man has been charged with the murder.

In the meantime Pc Terry Smith and his bloodhound Morse travelled south to assist Sussex Police in their search for missing eight-year-old Sarah Payne.

Pc Smith spent a day in Sussex tracking through the cornfields, woods and trails surrounding the home of Sarah's grandparents where she was last seen.

This high profile case unfortunately had a tragic end when the youngster's body was later found several miles away. A murder inquiry was subsequently launched.

Throw in the towel

ANYONE who has had dealings with bloodhounds will know that they do have a tendency to 'slobber' which is why the hunt is on for spare towels to dry up that 'drool'.

Pc Terry Smith, handler of bloodhound Morse, is requesting that any old towels (bath or hand), that are no longer required be donated to the dog section at Harlow.

Please send towels direct to Terry at Harlow Dog Section.

● Pictured right is Morse with Jenni, the kennel assistant at Sandon.



Snapshot of the future

A STATE-OF-THE-ART machine has arrived in the photographic department at headquarters.

The new digital mini-lab costing between £80,000 and £90,000 offers the facility to carry out bulk printing both from photographic negatives and digital media - compact discs and zippies.

Offering a hybrid photographic service it can jump between new and conventional technology.

Planned for a number of years the machine will allow us to cope with the trend towards digital imaging, and will be used for the images created on the new digital fingerprint camera to be installed in cases of crime later this year.

It has the ability to produce photographic quality work from digital cameras opposed to ink jet quality.

Although using the sophisticated machine means a steep learning curve for users there will be a very high benefit operationally.

Able to deal with digital images from operations such as the recent hijack, the machine replaces an old mini-lab which is due to be phased out in the next two years.

Looking to the future the machine will have a remote order facility for divisions ordering from a server.

Law letters

Send your letters to:
The Law, Press Office,
Police Headquarters,
PO Box 2, Chelmsford,
Essex CM2 6DA

Follow my leader

OCCASIONALLY in *The Law* newspaper there are some 'fillers' of a humorous nature. One comes to mind that I was recently witness to a few weeks ago.

The local branch of the IPA organised a tour of Hylands House one evening.

For those who don't know the location of this building you must travel along the Chelmsford track of the old A12 and just before going up an incline there is a gap, with gates in the brick wall surrounding the grounds. There is then a short drive along a narrow made-up track to the car park by the side of the house.

Some of us were watching our fellow visitors come through the gates when we saw one car we recognised as one of ours, swiftly followed by another and another and another...

When the number reached 20 plus we were informed that there had been a road accident near the entrance and all the vehicles had simply followed the one in front believing it was a detour.

As the only way out was the way they had come in you can just imagine the chaos.

Tony Cooper
NARPO Secretary
Braintree

Same editor - just married!

DUE to the marriage of *The Law's* editor Kim White, all future correspondence should be forwarded to Mrs Kim Perks in the Press Office at Essex Police Headquarters.

The price of being a pensioner

I FEEL officers and others who consider the benefits of joining or belonging to the PPP Healthcare organised by the Police Federation are not made fully aware of the cost, as one grows older.

If one has medical problems then it has great advantages, but if one is lucky enough to only require a couple of visits to see a doctor then the costs are unbelievable. My wife and I have been members for some 40 years.

We are now 71 and 75 and have never been in hospital, but feel we are no longer wanted by the PPP.

In that 40 odd years the Federation has changed to various companies, but the present company for at least 15 years.

We are in the lower group of the company, i.e. 'D' level without the

benefits of the most costly hospitals. Plus we have to pay an excess of £70 for each treatment or consultation in each year.

I have now received notification that my annual subscription will be £3,154.08, i.e. £262.84 a month or £8.64 a day. Take this from your pension and it leaves an enormous reduction.

Forget no claims bonus or cash up front because that is not a valid point. I feel that most pensioners are forced out by these annual increases and this point is not made sufficiently clear when one is joining.

Is it not time the percentage increases were printed and shown in *The Law* in order that all are made aware of this valid point?

I'm hoping to live to 100, but I hate

to think what I would be charged if I was still a member.

And remember, there is no tax reduction to claim on payments.

G A Mence, Earl's Colne
Response from Federation Chairman Sgt Dave Jones: Mr Mence would, like all members of the scheme, have received a letter from myself explaining the need for extraordinary increases this year. Basically it was explained that for every £1 paid into the scheme PPP had paid £1.63 in claims. No commercial organisation can sustain these losses and this was ably demonstrated when approaching other insurers for alternative costings.

I was not involved in the scheme when Mr Mence says he joined but I

agree that no one envisaged that medical insurance costs would rise as much as they have, for young and old alike.

The point regarding tax relief is also fair. Tax relief was withdrawn several years ago but this, unfortunately, is a governmental decision and outside the control of the medical insurers.

As a variety of options are available, I feel that printing increases in *The Law* is likely to confuse rather than help members. This is one of the reasons why we offer a Helpline to discuss individual needs.

I have asked our advisers to write to Mr Mence direct. I am informed that there are alternatives available at lower costs if he would like to take advantage of them.

Care more - stress less

AS a police pensioner and avid reader of *The Law*, I was pleased to receive my June issue, but somewhat surprised to read the article on rising sickness levels.

Having read the article I was astonished to think that Essex Police was surprised by the ever-increasing sickness of police officers and civilian staff within the force.

Having been medically retired from the force a year ago, and for the first time in 21 years standing on the outside looking in, the problem of sickness appeared simple to me.

The word stress is still a dirty word within the ranks, and most officers and civilians would deny ever suffering from it, but the fact of the matter is that many do.

Having suffered from it myself I

realised I needed to know more about the effects it has on people.

I read several books and articles and found it can cause a multitude of medical conditions, covering repetitive headaches, ulcers, impotence, palpitations, insomnia, strokes, heart attacks etc, etc, the list is pretty much endless.

It can also manifest itself as symptoms of diseases, which to the person on the receiving end will be as real as if the problem existed.

It is so apparent to me that management style and lack of care and concern is a cause of stress.

If the internal stresses were removed and people doing a good job were allowed to get on with it without the hindrance of others, you would not need a working group to look at the causes, you would see a marked improvement in the sickness records.

In other words keep the round pegs in round holes.

A recent example of this lack of care was given to a good friend of mine, who has an exemplary sickness record and is now suffering with cancer. He

was told he would be on half pay at six months.

A caring comment for someone with his present problems.

So I say to the people concerned, don't read this article and laugh, read it, understand it and wake up to the fact that morale is low.

Steve Mowday
Beccles, Suffolk

Response from Assistant Chief Officer Philip Onions: Our sickness levels in term of days per officer and per support staff member are one of the highest nationally.

This adds to the pressures of those in the workplace.

Indeed if we could improve our police sickness levels to those of the average force in England and Wales this would be equivalent to 25 additional officers.

If we don't improve our police sickness we will not receive the additional 103 officers funded by the Home Office as part of the Crime Fighting Fund allocation of 5,000 officers, resulting in more pressure on

our current staff.

The vast majority of our staff are extremely dedicated and have excellent attendance records.

Those who are ill, will get support but I believe there is considerable scope to improve attendance at work.

The attendance policy, prepared with full consultation, draws on best practice elsewhere.

It includes having an in-house medical officer supported by professional staff who can pick up and tackle health matters at an early stage.

Our aim is to get better at getting back those suffering from illness and help those who need support whether their problems are believed to be caused in the workplace or indeed external or domestic pressures.

The force has maintained or improved service against most key indicators of performance and the people of Essex live in one of the safest counties.

We all want that to continue.

Lack of respect is a sign of the times

OUT of the five letters in the June issue of *The Law*, three were basically complaining about the lack of police action and/or visibility, which reflects the growing concern of the public on the lack of policing.

As a Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator it was quite dispiriting to hear a neighbour telling me that when his daughter wanted to telephone the police on something she had seen, he told her not to bother as it would be a waste of a phone call.

I am not blaming the ordinary policeman or policewoman but there is no doubt that the combination of lack of funds and political correctness preached by Chief Constables and various committees, all following

what appears to be Government procedure, is relegating police to the equivalent of an estate agent or 'foot in the door' sales person on the list of people's respect for various professions.

J A Reynolds, Brentwood

Thanks for your touching tributes

I WOULD like to express my sincere thanks to the current serving police officers, as well as old colleagues and friends, for their presence and tributes at the remembrance service for my late husband, Laurie McKenna, which took place on June 21.

You helped us say goodbye to our dearly-loved and sadly-missed husband and father, of whom we remain incredibly proud.

Laurie had retired from the police force in 1992, however happy memories of his time in service remained strongly in his mind and his heart.

Special appreciation to the old friends who travelled to be at the service with us and to our friend Sgt Pat Kirby for his beautifully presented and thoughtful speech.

'Cherish' the thought!

IN the present climate of saving as much money as is humanly possible, how can Essex Police justify spending £250 on a cherished number plate (A13 EPD) for one of its pool cars?

Surely any saving, however small, should be made, regardless of department or division. The next time some-

one asks for a piece of kit or equipment and is told there is no money, perhaps it could be explained how the organisation can afford the number plate.

V.A. Wilcockson
Driving School
Police HQ

Response from Assistant

Chief Officer Philip Onions: The index A12 EPD has been in the force's ownership for a number of years. A13 EPD is an unmarked pool vehicle used by chief officers on official duties and the cost of the plate was felt to be worthwhile in identifying it as part of the Police Headquarters fleet.

A final thank you for the kind donations that were made to Laurie's favourite charity SENSE, the National

Blind Deaf Association.

Mrs Janice McKenna
Westcliff.

Guarding our memories of service

I WRITE on behalf of the Colchester Guards Club.

The club is made up of ex members of the seven regiments of the Household Division with a view to foster the comradeship that we all enjoyed during our service days.

We meet every third Wednesday of the month at the Royal British Legion club, Elmstead Market, near Colchester.

As well as our monthly meeting, we arrange other group activities

which include battlefield tours, Trooping the Colour, regimental memorial days and visits to sites and events of mutual interest.

I would be very pleased to hear from ex Guardsmen who would care to join us at any time.

I can be contacted at 10 Suffolk Close, Holland-on-Sea, Essex CO15 5SQ or 01255 815140.

R.A. Naden
Holland-on-Sea

Are your sights aimed at firearms?

AN open day on September 15 about police use of firearms is aiming to trigger more officers, particularly women, to specialise.

Specialist departments need the diversity of personnel for operational reasons and are encouraging women, who currently represent only three per cent of firearms trained officers, to attend.

Reasons for women not to use firearms appear to be many and varied but it is hoped to fire up enthusiasm with presentations from Mobile Support, Stansted Airport and Crime Division outlining roles, skills and requirements for firearms trained officers.

Firearms training Inspector Tim Stokes said: "We are dedicated to dismantling barriers, and Open Days such as this will go a long way to achieving our goal."

Physical training instructors will be available for fitness advice for those who may be concerned about the fitness test.

There will be a display of tactical deployments and officers will be given an opportunity to use the firearms.

Commercial firms will be displaying body armour and refreshments will be provided.

The venue for the event will be Wethersfield.

For more information contact Insp Tim Stokes on extension 53082.

House-to-house policy discussed

MORE officers will become involved in carrying out house-to-house inquiries during major investigations under a proposal being considered by Essex Police.

At present members of the Force Support Unit are drafted in to provide this service, but other demands, such as firearms duties, mean they may not always be available.

Now the force's Operational Policing Policy Group is looking at drawing on both Mobile Support and territorial divisions, including Specials, to take on this task.

Consultation is in its final stages, in readiness for a decision at next month's policy group meeting.

Applications for police posts roll in after launch of commercial

Television exposure boosts recruitment

THE recently launched recruitment campaign is gathering momentum this month with a series of commercials being shown on Anglia Television.

Advertisements were filmed around the county by the Essex Police television unit in conjunction with Anglia Television's commercial department, using real officers in everyday situations.

by Heather Watts

Showing individual officers playing their part in upholding law and order the advertisements pose the question 'Do you recognise yourself in any of these people?'

Chief Constable David Stevens said: "We recognise the power of television advertising in reaching a wide audience and we welcome the opportunity to reach potential recruits in this way."

Also reaching out to the gay

community, Essex Police attended the *Mardi Gras* event in London, for the first time, which resulted in a number of application packs being requested. Essex Police is also seeking applications from other minority groups.

Congratulated

The Essex team who attended the event comprised Insp Stephen Warwick, Pc Andy Meyer, Paul Anley, a support staff officer in the Information Room, and a police woman from Harlow. The recruitment trailer was very impressive and the team were congratulated for their professionalism.

Headquarters recruitment office is working flat out to deal with requests

for application packs, having sent out over 4000.

Two successful open evenings have been held and applications are now being received from would be officers.

Recent recruit, Paul Birkin, aged 28, found the application process weeded out those who were thinking of joining Essex Police for a 'run of the mill job', while Darren Knowles, aged 24, found the application process easier than he had anticipated.

If you are a special constable or a member of support staff interested in becoming a regular Essex Police officer more details can be found on our website at www.essex.police.uk/recruits or contact the recruitment line on 01245 452277 during office hours.

It's as easy as ABC!



● Pc Brett Mercer and Paramedic manager Gina Prior in one of the car parks of the Five Links Estate in Laindon. Photo: Robin Woosey, Newsquest

SIMPLE use of the alphabet could help the emergency services save lives and tackle crime on a Laindon estate.

The Five Links estate in Laindon is renowned for its matrix of car parks which all look alike and make navigating the area a difficult task.

When it was realised that the car parks totalled 26, two local police officers kick-started a scheme which involved painting two metre high letters on the surface - each costing

just a few pounds.

Vital minutes, and therefore lives, could be saved according to ambulance staff, who will be able to locate individual houses much quicker. Likewise the letters provide a great navigational tool from the air for both the Essex Police helicopter and the air ambulance. They can be seen at 1500ft.

And it's not just the emergency services who will benefit. Residents, in particular visiting friends and

families, will find it easier to navigate the estate.

Community liaison officer Pc Brett Mercer, who thought up the idea along with DI Bob Chatterton, said: "It will help us with crime prevention because we'll get there quicker and will also help with crime analysis as we'll record which areas report the most crime. It's a very simple idea but can be easily adapted and could be used on other estates."

Discover the science of police work

WHO did it? Follow the clues and the answer can be found at Southend Discovery Centre.

A lottery grant allowed Southend Central Museum to create this new and exciting venture, housed in the museum, Victoria Avenue, Southend and opened last month by the Mayor.

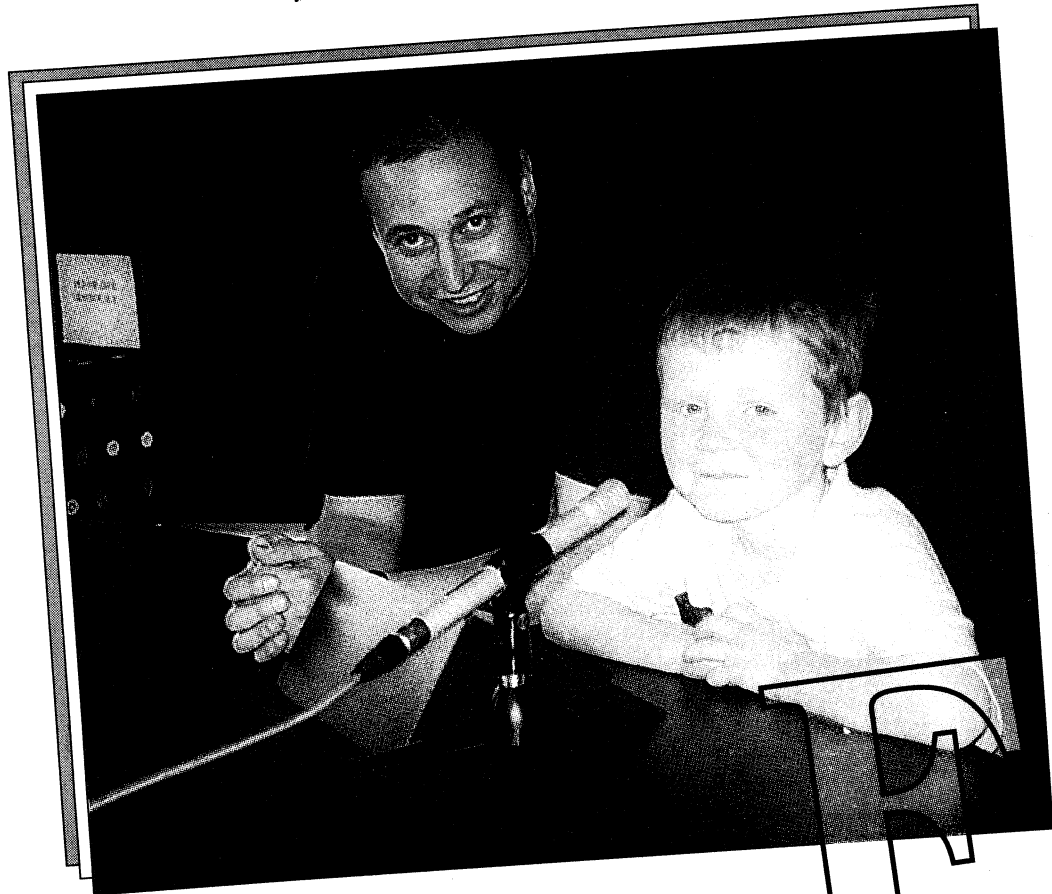
Public consultation about items to be included in the discovery centre made it clear that the public wanted part of the gallery to look at forensic policing.

Following months of hard work by the Essex Police museum curator, Elizabeth Farnhill and Southend scenes of crime officer, Dc Steve Atkins, the discovery centre includes an interactive display of items that would be found at crime scenes.

Steve designed the display, provided props and made several items with Elizabeth providing a story line and text.

The majority of the exhibits are interactive and reflect Southend and the town's history and would make a good place to visit with the children during the school holidays.

Thousands brave th



● Starting young . . . five-year-old James Kirby, from Basildon, reads the news with manager Marc Berners at the TV Unit's open house in aid of the Neo-Natal Department at St John's Hospital, Chelmsford.

THE Essex Police Millennium Family Day attracted thousands of visitors and gave charities a welcome boost.

The event, held at Police Headquarters, was a revival of the force's Fun Day, held to mark Millennium year.

Although rain got in on the act, more than 3,000 visitors braved the weather to enjoy a variety of displays, sideshows and stalls.

Funds were raised by charities running their own pitches and from attractions organised by police personnel past and present.

Fifty charities are estimated to have shared almost £6,000 from the day.

Arena events included classic police vehicles, the Essex FM Roadshow and a crash scenario staged by the emergency services.

There were displays by the Braintree Dimensions concert and marching band, Chelmsford's Blue Falcons gymnasts and the Essex Police Dog Unit.

Music featured in the programme, with appearances by the Essex Police Band and its youth section and the Essex Caledonian Pipe Band.

Rides on the skid

TRAMITI



● Jasmine and Christopher Linge in a US Air Force Police car which



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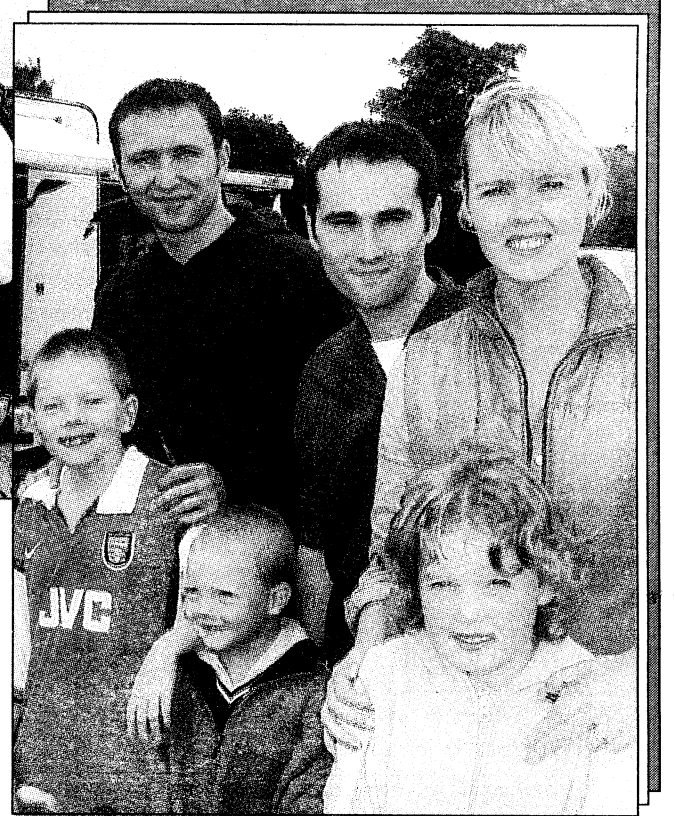
s by Peter
and Ken Linge

opportunity to be
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am grateful to everyone
ard to make the day a
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Y



● Pulling in the punters . . . Basildon Division's tabletop horse racing sideshow was a firm favourite, helping the local women's refuge.

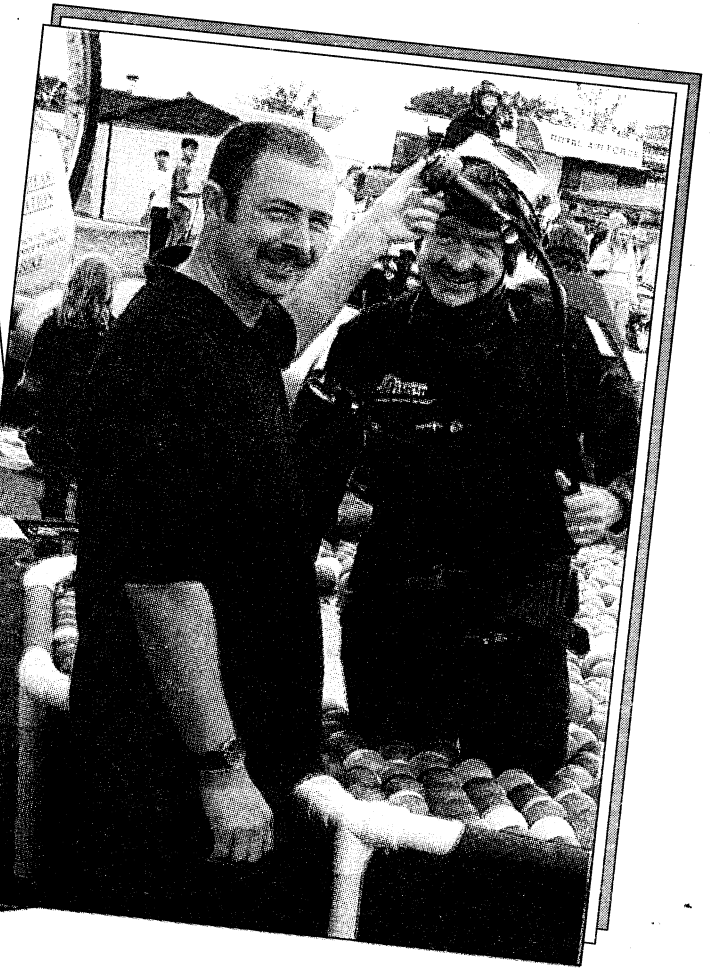


● Star turn . . . actors Alex Walkinshaw, Rene Zagger and Lisa Geoghan, from *The Bill*, pose for pictures with young visitors to raise money for the National Holiday Fund for Sick and Disabled Children.

FUN



one of the many vehicles on display.



● Rain was the least of the worries for Assistant Chief Officer Philip Onions and head of Mobile Support, Supt Doug Adams. Mr Onions was among those who braved wet sponges and a water gun as the Finance Department raised money for Acorn Village, while diver Doug took to the shallow end in aid of the British Heart Foundation. After his ordeal he needed a helping hand from Sgt Rob Trigg in removing his mask.

Horsewatch goes online

ESSEX Police is supporting a website launched by Essex Horsewatch to ensure that the fight against equine crime is made more effective.

The site at web address www.essexhorsewatch.org.uk will be used to publicise its activities and to promote equine-related crime prevention by developing further its existing network of communications whereby Essex Police and owners of equines can act swiftly on information received.

The user-friendly site allows visitors access to information that will alert them to crime trends, and also provides details of stolen horses and trailers as well as other equine-related crime. There is also a public forum where people can start discussions with like-minded enthusiasts.

Registered users will be able to use the website's network of co-ordinators to pass on details of all Essex equine crime to members. Victims of crime and investigating officers can submit details of stolen property direct from the site using an online form.

Horsewatch membership is available to all Essex-based horse owners and they can join online too. The site has already attracted over 200 hits in its first month with a USA sent to the site - so our fame is beginning to spread!



● Supt Doug Adams (centre) is pictured with Jennie Hubbard, of Little Haven Children's Hospice, Lee Gillam, of the Essex Air Ambulance, together with the air ambulance crew and some of the Essex Police officers who completed the sponsored cycle ride.

Coastal challenge raise charity cash

OFFICERS from the Essex Police Mobile Support Division have presented two worthy causes with more than £1,600, raised on a sponsored coast-to-coast cycle ride.

Supt Doug Adams, head of the division, presented cheques for £820.27 each to the Boreham Airfield based Essex Air Ambulance and the Little Haven Children's Hospice, which is at Rayleigh, Essex.

The money was raised by 12 Essex officers who last year completed a gruelling coast-to-coast bike ride from Whitehaven, Cumbria to Newcastle.

Supt Adams said both charities relied on donations from the public to keep going and the work they did was "second to none".

He thanked the companies which had supported the

by Norman Hicks

cycle marathon - Ford, Hi-Tec and BP - and also the support team who had accompanied the riders in back-up vehicles.

Jennie Hubbard, of the Little Haven Children's Hospice, thanked the officers for their efforts and said the money would go towards helping the hospice's work with the 270 Essex families which have been referred to it.

Lee Gillam, Essex Air Ambulance Air Operations Manager, added his thanks and said the donation would enable seven lives to be saved. Since it began operations two years ago, the air ambulance has flown 1800 missions, 45 per cent of them to road accidents, of which 18 per cent involved children.

Special souvenir in honour of RUC

A LIMITED edition commemorative plate has been produced to mark the presentation, earlier this year, of the George Cross to the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Her Majesty the Queen made the award in April and now just 15,000 plates will be made to mark the occasion.

Produced in fine china, and reflecting the gallantry of officers in their onerous task, it would take pride of place in any

home. To order your limited edition of this commemorative plate, costing £20 plus £3.50 postage and packaging (£10 for overseas airmail), contact the Royal Ulster Constabulary G.C. Museum on 028 9065 0222 ext 22499 or order online at www.rucplate.co.uk.

For every plate purchased a donation of £2 will go towards a lasting memorial in Belfast.

Mind your own business

The column of the Ex-Essex Police Business Association

Staggering increase in membership

OVER the last six months the membership has virtually doubled in size. The reasons are mainly due to the working opportunities being offered by Essex Police and the Legal Support Group.

Our latest meeting saw in excess of 50 members showing great enthusiasm to learn how they can put all their skills acquired during their police service, into the minefield of private business.

Unfortunately our secretary, Frank Holden, was unable to continue in office because of his own personal commitments and passed his extremely heavy workload onto no less than four others who are already seeking volunteers to spread the responsibilities further.

The Association gives a big thank you to Frank for all his hard work and tremendous enthusiasm in office.

Temporary election of officers

THE following were elected to carry out roles until the next AGM; Bob Craven - Associate Secretary, Brian Hindley - Treasurer and Ken Luxford - Membership Secretary. The committee will be looking for volunteers to be part of a social committee.

New projects

THE sub-committee is continuing to work closely with Essex Police and other police forces to create working opportunities for members of the Association. Send your CV to Roy Dennis if you wish to be part of this programme.

AGM

THE next meeting is the AGM which takes place on Wednesday, September 6 at 7.30pm at the HQ Sports and Social Club.

New members

CONTACT Membership Secretary Ken Luxford on 01206 395948 or email kenluxford@supanet.com to join the Association.

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A further six Essex canines qualified in advanced scent technique

Essex nose ahead in dog training



● Course instructor Pc Kieran Dale (centre) at the 'passing out' of Sgt Patrick Kirby with Ringo, Pc Frank Pallett with Khan, Pc Garry Talbot with Rebel, Pc David Rudd with Alfie, Pc Mark Needham with Kaspa and Pc Sara Dean with Bruno.

ESSEX Police is the only force in the country able to supply 24 hour cover by Scent Article Method trained dogs, able to trail in contaminated areas on trails which are more than six hours old.

The first Scent Article Method (SAM) 'bolt on' course for six Essex Police dog handlers and their dogs, held recently, will provide an additional tool to the two bloodhounds and two German Shepherd dogs (GSDs) already trained by this method.

This follows the success of project Endeavour, and good operational results for bloodhounds Sherlock and Morse, and GSDs Regan and Scully.

Back in 1998 Sherlock won a silver medal for his exceptional tracking ability when at only seven-and-a-half months old he tracked and found an elderly and

confused woman, when all other methods had failed, and the Endeavour dogs have been called to assist other forces with their expertise.

Although the two bloodhounds are known as 'nose on legs', GSDs are capable of achieving the same results as bloodhounds.

After the two week SAM course, which uses the dogs natural instincts, the six GSDs, ranging in age and experience, can successfully trail in contaminated areas for up to seven hours.

In six to 12 months it is hoped that every GSD in the force will be trained in SAM.

Following the assessment of operational requirements by officers requesting the assistance of a police dog, certain procedures have been identified which will increase the benefits of using these highly trained noses.

An article left behind, touched by, belonging to or handled by, the person to be trailed should be available.

Articles which the dogs have trailed in the past have been diverse ranging from car seats in a stolen vehicle, a shoe, scent left by a robber on a post office counter and even an oxygen mask.

Scenes must be preserved and the point where the suspect was last seen should be established.

Articles must only be handled by officers wearing latex gloves, placed in a paper bag or police property bag and sealed.

If an article is contaminated by an officer, that officer must be at the scene for their scent to be eliminated by the dog prior to commencement of the trail.

For any further advice or information contact Sandon Dog section or your local SAM or Endeavour dog handler.

Staff activity analysed for future funding

FOR a two week period later this year police officers and support staff on territorial divisions, Mobile Support division and Crime division will be required to complete activity analysis sheets which will record the activities on which they have spent their time.

This has been brought about following recommendations by Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary that police forces should adopt an activity based costing process which reflects the functions carried out by officers.

Essex Police needs to be able to

evidence to central Government our cost of our staff activities and that they are spending their time in line with Government priorities and local policing needs.

Failure to do this may see Essex Police miss out on future Government funding.

A project team has been set up to ensure that the whole process of activity based costing runs smoothly and is conducted in the most efficient and effective manner.

Chief Insp Dave Folkard, who is part of the team said: "We accept that this is an additional burden on

officers and support staff alike. However it is only for a two-week period and is not something that we can avoid doing. It is imperative that all staff take just a little time and care to ensure that the forms are completed accurately.

"If we don't get it right we may miss out on additional funding or come up with inaccurate management information that will affect future decision making on such key issues as resource allocation."

Further information will be published next month.

Support group is well attended

THE first meeting of the networking/support group for lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and trans-gendered staff members of Essex Police was held on Friday, July 14.

The evening was well attended with interest shown from another 21 employees. It was agreed necessary to identify a co-ordinator for the network and following a vote by those present, Insp Moira Owers from Braintree was duly nominated.

Dates for subsequent meetings are provisionally booked as August 14, September 18 and October 23.

Each meeting will start at 7.30pm at a venue to be confirmed.

Calls are welcomed from any staff member in relation to the network by the co-ordinator, who can be contacted direct at Braintree on 01376 556204 or 63122. Alternatively use the internal email, or personal message pager on 07669 162487.

Equipped to save lives

ESSEX Police is one of the first forces to train its officers in Immediate Trauma Life Support (ITLS) which is now the recognised first aid qualification for firearms officers.

Eight officers have attended a course at Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow, which teaches them to manage a variety of life threatening situations using skills usually associated with the work of a paramedic.

Now able to train other officers the hospital will be responsible for assessment and certification.

by Heather Watts

County scheme to tackle pub crime

EXTRA help is now at hand for licensing officers faced with the problem of pub-related crime, as the Essex Model Pubwatch scheme is sanctioned and rolling out countywide.

The Essex Model scheme provides each police licensing officer with a pro-forma membership poster for display in public houses, pro-forma banning letters, and the assistance of a county coordinator in setting up new schemes and boosting flagging schemes.

Specific public house intelligence can be sent to (and disseminated from) the county coordinator, who is currently Pc Paul Bird at Basildon.

He is in the process of gathering details of all the existing Pubwatches in Essex, including those that have not had a formal meeting for some time, or those that hold no meeting and exist purely by virtue of their radio-link or pager system.

It is one of Pc Bird's responsibilities to ensure that each divisional police coordinator has all the assistance he or she needs in running their scheme.

He also hopes to provide regular advice on ideas of best practice in respect of running Pubwatches.

Keep an eye on future editions of *The Law* for more information and crime updates.

Anyone wanting more advice or information can contact Pc Bird on 01268 244035, 47180 or via internal email.

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

Names in the news

New blood brings new ideas

SERGEANT Eric Pollard, Chelmsford and constable Ernest Davis, Rayleigh Traffic, retire this month, both officers having served 30 years.

Constable Kay Cummings, Information Room retires after serving over 26 years.

Braintree constable Eric Stevens retires after nearly 25 years' service, while Pc Trevor Bailey, based at Saffron Walden, retires after nearly 24 years with Essex Police.

Constable David Holmes, Thurrock retires after serving eight years.

Ill-health has forced the retirement of Clacton detective constable Andrew Wood after 27 years' service.

Colchester constable Timothy Jeffs also retires this month on medical grounds after serving 27 years.

Comrades' luncheon

A FINAL reminder that the Comrades' Association autumn luncheon will take place on Friday, October 13 at Police HQ, commencing at 1pm. The bar will be open from 11.30am to 3.30pm. If you are attending and have any special dietary requirements or mobility problems would you please let Dave Jones know as soon as possible on 01245 452797/9.

Please ensure that booking forms, together with a cheque for £13.75, are sent to Dave Jones at the Police Federation Office, HQ, to arrive no later than Friday, October 6. Tickets will be issued by Monday, October 9. Unfortunately only in exceptional circumstances can any bookings be accepted after this date. Those attending are reminded that there are parking restrictions in several of the streets surrounding Police HQ.

THE recent letter in *The Law* has resulted in a number of former members of NARPO wishing to renew their interest in the Branch and also put forward ideas.

Catering for all tastes is not going to be possible but hopefully we will be able to arrange most.

In terms of social functions, wine tasting, historical lectures and other such social gatherings have been suggested. However, a day out in Soho or Amsterdam's red light district may be stretching things a little - for

health reasons of course.

More ideas are wanted with volunteers to carry them out.

Southend police station is being looked at as a venue for this year's Christmas get together. The idea of holding it on the same day as the 'white helmet do' is also being looked at.

In the meantime tickets for the dinner and dance on September 30 are still available but be quick as they are selling well. The event is being held at the Cumberland Suite and NARPO members and partners are being

subsidised to the sum of £5 per head. Too good to miss out!

If you are interested in joining the Southend-on-Sea branch of NARPO or want to renew an old membership contact Dick Bloomfield on 01702 582750 or email cpc@fsbdial.co.uk.

Branch secretary is Bob Craven on 01702 582750, email isa@tinyworld.co.uk or address 20 Marcus Chase, Southend-on-Sea SS1 3LG.

To keep costs down and assist the secretaries please send as SAE with any correspon-

Another first class treat

● ONCE again we have been treated to a first class day out at this year's Force Garden Party. Having requested transport I was picked up at 1.30pm, transported in first class style, in excellent company, and efficiently driven to the venue before being later returned to my door.

The whole afternoon was excellently organised. It was a joy to meet so many former colleagues - I won't say 'old'. I can only say to those who did not come that you missed a treat. The band played well and the food was good.

I will not go on - only to congratulate all those responsible and long may it continue.

**Archie Rickwood
Southend**



● Former Basildon police staff Pam Wilton, from Rayleigh, Olivia Nazareth, from Wickford and Irene Taylor, Southend enjoy a chat over a cup of tea.

AROUND 400 Essex Police pensioners and current members of staff gathered for the annual garden party at Essex Police Training Centre, Chelmsford.

They were welcomed by Chief Constable David Stevens, who told them that, since they had last met a year ago, the force had been especially busy, with three major incidents on top of the

ever-growing routine policing demands.

The crash in December of a Korean Airlines jumbo jet in Hatfield Forest, near Stansted had been followed closely by a successful operation to police the Millennium celebrations, which had seen the biggest operational deployment Essex Police has ever seen. Then, in February, world attention had been focused on Essex for the Afghanistan plane hi-jack, which was

again dealt with successfully, he said.

"The force has also got bigger since we last met, having taken over the remaining Epping Forest District Council area in April. It is quite interesting that, even though it is only a few months since we took over, we have received a lot of letters from people saying how nice it is to see Essex Police policing the area again," said Mr Stevens.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE - ONE WORD PER BOX

Name and rank

Station Home Tel.....

Date Signed

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 should be re-submitted on a monthly basis. The Law team reserves the right to edit or omit any advert which doesn't meet this criteria.

Market Place

BMW K100RT motorcycle, 1988 F reg, 65,000 miles. 12 months tax, test, metallic grey, £1,900 ono. Contact Pc Gary Wilson, Chigwell traffic 0208 345 1713.

CARAVAN for rent, 3 bed, sleeps 8, all mod cons. Club facilities included, on Haven site, Caister on Sea. Contact 01279 452548.

CLASSIC Kawasaki 1000 motor cycle, 1981, immaculate condition, £1,500. Contact 07879 897660 or 01621 851383.

DUCATI 750 Paso 'K' reg, 10,000 miles, immaculate condition, £2,000 ono. Contact Paul Kelly ext 75185 or 01277 223007.

EX Essex Police Ford Mondeo 2.0si, 'M' reg, MOT Oct, tax Aug, ABS, c/l, h/w, e/w, P.A.S £3,250 ono. Phone 02392 632790.

FIAT Uno 45, 1990, H reg. Black, 1 year's MOT, four new

tyres, new exhaust, good condition, £750. Contact 07879 897660 or 01621 851383.

FORD Escort special edition 1.6I Mexico 5 door hatchback. Black, excellent condition, 50,000 miles. Reluctant sale - going to America, £4,250. Contact Keith Simpson at Sandon Dogs or 01245 323707.

FORD Fiesta 1.1 Festival. Low mileage, 1988, good condition, excellent runner, tax, MOT, new tyres, full service history, sunroof, £525 ono. Contact Jason Snow, Braintree or 01787 227104.

FOUR to six berth frame tent, brand new last winter, many extras included, £200 ono. Contact Clare Deedman on extension 55216 or 01376 346840.

HALESWORTH, Suffolk, 2 bed holiday cottage for let. Completely modernised but

retaining beams and oak flooring. Near Southwold, Broads and beautiful countryside. Contact Bob Taylor, Laindon or 01245 324651.

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PRINTER, Epson stylus photo printer (inkset), A4. Excellent condition, selling due to upgrade, (A3), £85. Contact Janice Mellors, HQ FIR or 01376 563936.

SCOTTISH Highlands. Self catering in new one bedroom bungalow or four bedroom bungalow or stay in beautiful Austrian style home on B&B basis or full board by the day or week. Skiing, fishing, shooting, walking, bird watching or just relaxing. Contact Andy Nunn on 01479 841717.

TONING tables. Seven £1,000 ono. Contact Janice Mellors, HQ FIR or 01376 563936.

TOYOTA Carina E, 'M' reg, 1600cc, 25,000 miles, one owner, silver/blue metallic, GL spec, power steering, elec windows, sunroof, central locking, radio/cass, excellent condition, service history £5,250. Tel 01268 726689.

YAMAHA SRX250 1984, 'A' reg, 22k, MOT April 2001, new tyres and battery, £500 ono. Contact Ds Brian Whit on 01268 757613.



● Choir chairman Peter Simpson presents a cheque for £1168.83 to representatives of the Mid Essex Respite Care Association Heather Harris, Margaret Ganicott and Bob Drake (who is also a choir member).

Another singing success for the charitable choristers

SINCE their return from a trip to Victoria, British Columbia - reported in the July issue of *The Law* - the Essex Police Choir has been busy with more concerts.

The June concert was held at Langham Church, near Colchester and the charity benefiting from the proceeds was the Langham Ward at Colchester General Hospital. The church congregation has supported the ward for a number of years, and with the £500 raised this time around, the ward was able to purchase two additional wheelchairs for patient use.

Sue Eastbrook, the wife of our choirmaster, is nursing manager for Langham Ward so we are particularly pleased to assist Langham Church in their fundraising.

The second concert, held in July in Trinity Methodist Church in Chelmsford was to raise funds for the Mid Essex Respite Care Association. This is a local voluntary organisation that offers support and practical help to those people who accept the task of caring for people suffering from mental health problems.

The service is the only one of its kind in Essex. Once again we were fortunate to have a full house for the concert and the audience included Mr and Mrs Stevens and the Mayor of Chelmsford, Mr Christopher Stephenson and Mrs Stephenson. As a result of the concert the

Care Association will benefit by over £1100 (see photo).

After a summer break for August we start back on Saturday, September 9 with a concert at St Andrew's Parish Church at Weeley. Once again start time is at 7.30pm and tickets, priced £5, can be obtained from Bob Sarson at The Park, Gutteridge Hall Lane, Weeley, Essex CO16 9DL.

Also in September, on Saturday 23, we will be returning to St Aidan's Church in Leigh-on-Sea for an evening concert starting at 7.30pm. Proceeds from the concert will go to assist the work of the much respected Lady McAdden Breast Screening Unit.

Tickets will be priced at £3 and can be obtained from Norma Heigho on 01245 522360.

Moving to October, we return to Christchurch in Chelmsford where on Saturday, October 21, we will be bringing the three

Essex Police musical organisations together for a grand Essex Police concert. This will feature performances from the Essex Police Band and the Essex Police Musical Society as well as the Essex Police Choir.

With these three groups you couldn't wish for a wider choice of entertainment so make a note in your diaries now. Ticket prices and details of how to obtain them will appear in the next newsletter. This event is usually the one concert during the year that we use to help raise funds for the choir to help us with the purchases of music, staging, uniforms etc. so by supporting us with your attendance you will help us to continue with our work of supporting many other charities in Essex.

Bill Fancourt

Essex Police Choir

Help net a double win

OUT of all the women who work at Police Headquarters there must be SOME who can play netball - just for one morning! This year's Croker Cup competition is being held on Sunday, August 20, and more players are needed to make up a team.

It has been made more difficult this year because the tournament clashes with V2000 at Hylands Park and

many people are having to work, but only seven women are needed for a team (more than seven will be a bonus).

Headquarters won the competition last year even though some of the team hadn't played since their schooldays, so if you can help make it a double victory contact Elizabeth Marsh on the Best Value Team on 51037 as soon as possible.

Angling for a date

THE Croker Cup freshwater angling competition date has been fixed.

It will be held at Bocking on Tuesday, September 12, and the organiser is Pc Neil Hudson at Braintree.

Lucky lottery winners

THE result of the July lottery is as follows: £1,500 Dc Kelly Offord, Wickford; £1,000 DCI Grahame Bird, Rayleigh; £500 Supt Jim Noakes, Rayleigh; £300 Pc Charles Panting; £200 Reginald Burling, Colchester; £100 Pc George Lambeth.

The following have won £50 consolation prizes: Chief Insp Iain Logan,

HQ; Jill Kerton, Vehicle Services; Janice Harrison, Fingerprint Bureau; Insp Malcolm Ding, MSD; Pc Alan Coley, Mistley; Pc Matthew McBride, Tilbury; Dc Christine Thomas, Basildon; Pc Christopher Roper, MSD; Pc Neil Curtis, HQ and Sgt Nigel Hirst, Colchester.

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*Sport
and Leisure*

A force to be reckoned with

WOMEN are being sought to take part in a regional rugby tournament, regardless of their experience.

The PAA British Women's Rugby section has been running now for four seasons and is growing in number each year but it is still keen to welcome newcomers.

At the start of each season the section runs a regional tournament which will be held this year in Wakefield on October 19 and 20. If you're interested it doesn't matter whether you are an international or have never picked up a ball before as the tournament is also a great social event.

Throughout the season the squad plays a

further four national fixtures and as the squad grows so does the number of regional games. Other previous events have taken the section to Holland and Spain and the squad is becoming so formidable it even beat the emerging England side last year.

Interested in the regional tournament? Contact Karen Duckworth on 0208 577 1212.

Place
a pledge
and help
ambulance
colleagues

Do you have the pulling power?

FORCE Information Room constable Kevin Rowe is entering the Police National Triathlon in Guernsey on September 3 for the second time.

Injury has prevented him from competing in this annual gruelling competition since 1993 but the recent off-road, short course police triathlon has inspired him to compete again.

Raise funds

Competitors in Guernsey will have to swim 1500 metres in the sea, cycle 26 miles on roads and run 6 miles.

Kevin is hoping to raise funds for the Essex Air Ambulance and would like pledges.

Any pledges in the first instance by e-mail to kevin.rowe@essex.police.uk and after the event he will contact those who pledged money.

If anybody else is interested in taking part in the triathlon contact Sgt Pete Bryan at Chigwell road policing unit on 0208 345 1707.

THERE was more success for the Essex Police tug-of-war team at the recent PAA competition in Manchester despite travelling with a relatively inexperienced squad of only eight pullers.

Guided by coach Chris Medicott, the team of Andy Thorpe, Richard Wardleworth, Paul Fountain, Steve Tyrell, Stuart Byrne, Rob Sharman, Steve Gibbs and Alan Lambert pulled well against strong opposition.

The Essex team took third place in the 720 kg category.

There was also a silver medal for Steve Tyrell, guesting for the Staffordshire team at 640 kg and two bronze medals for Alan Lambert pulling with South Wales Police at 640 kg and with the Metropolitan Police at 680 kg.

Teams can borrow up to two pullers to ensure making the team weight.

Following the Essex Police success at Manchester, Steve Tyrell, Paul Fountain and Alan Lambert were selected to pull for the British Police team in the annual Tri-Services TOW event at Stirling, Scotland.

After pulling in torrential rain, Paul Fountain and Alan Lambert returned to Essex with two silver medals each, catchweight and 660 kg.

Anybody who is interested in taking up the sport or wants to give it a try, men and women, are always welcome.

Training is on Monday evenings at the Military Corrective Training Centre, Berechurch Lane, Colchester starting at 6.30pm.

A large squad of competitors is needed to field a team at forthcoming events.

For further information contact Pc Andy Thorpe, Brightlingsea or Pc Alan Lambert, Dunmow or by email.



Selected to pull for the British Police - Steve Tyrell, Alan Lambert and Paul Fountain.

No beating the newcomers

LOUGHTON Police may have the answer to getting the right football team together.

Boundary changes meant that the station, which was recently taken over from the

Metropolitan Police, has been staffed by officers from various stations throughout Essex.

Invited to enter a team in the Waltham Forest Borough Police 5-a-side football competition they not only played as a team for the first

time they won the competition beating 17 other police teams.

Medal winners were Ivor and Denise Harvey, Stuart Carr, Rob Cox, Jason Childs, Paul and Alison Davis and Alex Wisbey. Kevin Keegan eat your heart out.

Nine wicket win

Gentlemen of Essex C.I.D. v. East Hanningfield Cricket Club

AFTER the atrocious weather of the last month, very few of the team thought that this game would be played, let alone finished.

A new fixture for this season, the afternoon started overcast with rain clouds threatening. East Hanningfield were put into bat by Phil Mellon the CID skipper.

The game could not have started better as the scoreboard soon showed one wicket for no runs. Excellent bowling by Al Hurley, Simon Payne, Tony Bull and Peter Woods, the latter

taking five wickets in his spell, reduced the home team to 106 runs all out.

With the threat of rain increasing John Butcher and Mick Barlow opened the batting for the CID and, despite a short break for the inevitable rain shower, amassed a creditable 66 runs for the first wicket. The CID soon scored the required 107 runs without further loss to win the match by nine wickets.

Butcher finishing with 87 runs to his credit, a fine knock.



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