

Video previewed
at festival - P3



Off road fun for
kids - centre



Posters tackle
tube trouble - P9

Three forces investigate blockages in anaesthetic breathing systems

HOSPITAL DEATH LEADS TO 'LINKED' INQUIRY



Motorway mayhem

This scene of devastation captured on video by the Air Support Unit illustrated a Bank Holiday weekend that was to claim the lives of nine people on the roads of Essex. Six of those who died were children or teenagers. For full details see page 3.

A SERIES of blockages in hospital anaesthetic breathing systems, one of which resulted in the death of a nine-year-old boy, has prompted a 'linked' police inquiry, only the second investigation of its kind to be led by Essex Police.

And with yet another major investigation underway, chief officers have reiterated their thanks for the dedication and professionalism being shown by Essex Police employees during an extremely demanding time.

The linked inquiry began after the death of Tony Clowes at Broomfield Hospital in July. The youngster had been admitted for micro-surgery after partially severing a fingertip, but he tragically died of oxygen starvation during preparations for surgery. A foreign object was found within the breathing system and the coroner asked Essex Police to investigate the circumstances, alongside the Health and Safety Executive, as an apparently isolated incident.

Less than three weeks later a man being prepared for surgery at Basildon Hospital began to have breathing difficulties. Staff replaced the apparatus and the operation continued with no adverse effects but the anaesthetist later found a foreign object had caused a blockage.

The internal reporting of this event alerted Essex Police to a similar incident already being investigated by Hertfordshire

by Kim Perks

Constabulary. It had occurred in April and although the patient had suffered some oxygen starvation, she made a full recovery.

Finding answers for the victims and families victims involved, reassuring the public and protecting any potential criminal or civil proceedings became a priority and a decision was made to make the events public through a press conference.

Subsequent publicity unearthed another incident at The Royal Bournemouth Hospital in Dorset from November last year. As the health professionals expressed their amazement that such an 'accident' could have occurred at all, let alone on four occasions, concerns were growing among all the agencies that maybe the incidents were the result of a deliberate act.

Less convincing

At a second press conference a linked police inquiry was announced and the officer in overall command, Assistant Chief Constable John Broughton told the media: "the chances of these incidents being accidental is growing less and less likely".

Although other incidents have been reported to the investigating teams, no others to date have had sufficient similarities to be included in the ongoing inquiry and renewed 'hazard notices' have been circulated throughout the health service to reduce the chances of a reoccurrence.

ACC Broughton said: "This is a very complex and sensitive investigation and will therefore not be concluded overnight. Whilst the officers involved are bringing a vast amount of knowledge and experience into the inquiry they are not clinicians and we all rely heavily on the expertise of independent professionals."

continued on page 3

Three nines recruitment

ESSEX Police will be hosting an emergency services' recruitment day later this month in order to attract more recruits from groups currently under-represented.

The Essex Ambulance Service and the Essex County Fire & Rescue Service will join police at the Essex Police Training Centre on Saturday, September 29 to offer people the opportunity to learn more about each emergency service.

The ECFRS will be hoping to attract women to a service where numbers are low, while Essex Ambulance Service and Essex Police will be focusing their resources on recruiting minority ethnic communities.

Recruiting manager Sue Adkins says: "Our aim is to attract a wide range of people who may be suitable for a career in one of the emergency services. We'll have show stands where the public can come over and discuss the roles of the service they're interested in."

A poster campaign will promote and highlight the day where potential recruits can learn more about the role of each service. The poster will be distributed in colleges, job centres, and libraries, with police, fire and ambulance stations also carrying the poster which has been designed by Essex Police.

Essex officers join national security seminar to combat lorry load theft

Speaking out against transport crime

TWO Essex officers are to take to the stage of a national security seminar this month, to help reduce the problems associated with transport crime.

DCI Mark Shields will talk to the delegation in Birmingham about his experiences as an investigator, including his involvement in a protracted case during 1998 which led to the conviction of nine people for a variety of high value stolen lorry loads.

Pc Iain McKinnon currently runs the National Stolen Lorry Load Desk and its database, set up by Essex Police in the early nineties and now funded by sponsorship from the industry. He will help to demonstrate the usefulness of 'intelligence' aspect of the facility and encourage its use among the trade. The desk will also be promoted through an exhibition stand throughout the seminar.

The seminar will be chaired by Assistant Chief

by Kim Perks

Constable for Dorset, George Potheary, in his role as chairman of JAGOLT (Joint Action Group on Organised Lorry Theft) and is the first of its kind to be held by the Royal Haulage Association and sponsored by Securicor Omega Express. Fifty per cent of proceeds from the event will be used to help maintain funding of the lorry desk.

The database maintained by Essex Police now indicates that lorry load theft is running at over 3,500 incidents each year, with the annual known costs exceeding £100m and growing year on year.

The lorry desk is now able to release regular analysis from its database and the seminar will provide an ideal opportunity for major transport companies, police forces, shippers, insurers and other interested organisations to come together and address the serious issue of transport related crimes

which continue to have a major impact on the haulage industry.

Key areas of discussion will include the latest updates from the database, offender profiles, theft prevention advice, safe truck parking and police best practice.

Director of Intelligence for Essex Police, Supt Wil Kennedy, said: "The lorry desk is an example of excellent joint working between the industry and the police. It is important that we all understand the benefits that the desk can bring in making the industry safer against crime. In partnership we all need to build on what has been created to ensure that the service continues to improve."

Some facts about transport crime:

- Eight out of every 1,000 HGV's on the road are stolen every year and only one in every 1,000 is recovered.
- Over one in four of the victims will lose a business as a result.
- More than half of all trucks stolen are taken from the operator's own premises.

Apologies to Mick's family

THE Law editorial team would like to apologise to the family and friends of the late Dc Mick Frost for any distress caused by an error which appeared in a headline in the August edition, in which he was referred to as Mark.

Concerns over sickness rules

THE 12 day sickness rule which is outlined in the Attendance Policy is still causing lots of concerns.

We have put out a questionnaire asking if you have been affected by this and we are now collating replies. If you have not already done so, please send examples of your personal position with details of your sickness record.

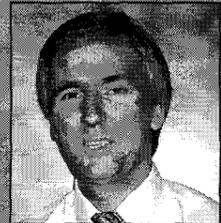
What the Chief Constable has said is that the 12 day rule will still apply but what we are suggesting is there are circumstances when officers have special cases, i.e. injury or illness which is a one-off blip in what would have been a first class sickness record. These do not appear, at the moment, to be looked at with any sympathy.

The half hour overtime saga continues in that whilst forces were negotiating for any back claims on a force by force basis, it has now been decided to place the matter back with the Police Negotiating Board for a national decision. This should have been done at the beginning and we would not have been in the Chinese whispers game of what Forces had supposedly agreed.

Unsatisfactory performance procedures: I have been asked to remind officers that they have the right to consult with a friend on this, and if any officer is the subject of Unsatisfactory Performance Procedures to seek guidance from their local divisional federation representative.

Police Reform: This subject has been rife since David Blunkett took on the role of Home Secretary, suggesting such things as CID officers working in uniform, presumably in a bid to raise police presence in the public's eyes, traffic wardens having more powers, special constables being paid, enhancing the status of community officers - all things we have heard before. Let's look at ourselves by all means but please don't do any knee jerk reaction which the country

Federation Newline by Terry Spelman



could live to regret in the long term.

Finally, a sad farewell to Dave Jones, your Joint Branch Board Chairman since 1993. He retires on September 22 and I wish Sandy and Dave, on behalf of yourselves, the office and myself a long and happy retirement. His successor will be Sue Kelly and we wish her well in her new role.

Unison by Lee Robson

Support staff pay offer accepted

FOLLOWING consultation the membership of Unison have agreed to accept the pay offer of 3.5 per cent with effect from September 1, 2001.

The employer's side has also agreed to open up negotiations on the PSSC Handbook and to consider the staff side best value claim.

Locally we had a return as follows:

- 51.22 per cent to accept the pay offer
 - 7.32 per cent to reject the pay offer
 - 41.46 per cent did not respond
- National figures are to be sent out soon.

All support staff are reminded that you need to be in Unison to have a say about pay rises. Join now to support your colleagues and help yourself into the bargain.

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Investigation studies links between four cases

continued from page 1

"Linking the individual investigations together is going to be the most effective way of resolving this matter. We have not as yet ruled anything out or anything in and the focus of each investigation and Operation Orcadian (the linked inquiry) will be to determine the cause of the blockages.

"The answer to this matter lies in the complex job of linking all the information from the three incident rooms, and that job is being done in our Central Research and Co-ordinating Group (CRCG) located at headquarters under the command of Ds Ed Toomey.

"It is important that we deal with any report of similar incidents professionally and if any officer is called to deal with such an incident they should preserve all the equipment for forensic examination and get in touch with the CRCG immediately."

Reflecting on the volume of major investigations that Essex have had to deal with recently Mr Broughton said: "It has been a busy time for us all and chief officers understand the considerable pressure we have all been under. We have dealt with the demands in our usual professional way and we have continued to provide an excellent service to the people of Essex.

"With the support of our Police Authority we have been able to focus resources to tackle the extraordinary circumstances of a number of national and internationally important offences all at once. I know that the Chief Constable has already expressed his thanks to all involved and I would like to echo that."

Hosing down the arson trend

IN a bid to reduce incidents of arson in the Rayleigh division which rise annually in September, crime reduction advisors have issued advice to householders and local businesses.

The number of crimes of arson in the area mirror Home Office statistics. Nationally the fire service attended 75,000 deliberately started fires last year. This is double the figure 10 years ago. Locally Rayleigh runs between two and five offences each month but saw eight in July last year and ten in September.

The crime reduction advisors Leslie Bramhill and Jason Sculthorpe have issued advice and promoted the Crimestoppers number for anyone to call with information about suspected fire-raisers.



AN Essex Police video trailer hit the big screen in August after organisers of V2001 agreed to show the production in between acts during the two-day music festival at Hylands Park in Chelmsford

The film, which was produced by the force television unit and is titled *Hate Crime - A Menace in Society*, was created to support a south Essex initiative to tackle crimes committed on the basis of disability, sexuality and race. The film features vic-

tim accounts, celebrity interviews and details of support services available. It also features music from Coldplay and David Gray both of whom have backed the campaign and performed at the Chelmsford event.

Campaign manager, Acting Sergeant Andrew Meyer, from Basildon Police, said: "Hate crime is a real issue and we take an extremely serious view of it. The film supports the campaign in a visual way and

features people who are part of these groups. In south Essex there is outstanding partnership work being undertaken which continues to go from strength to strength. Our message to the perpetrators of hate crime is - we will not tolerate such incidents and will take positive action against you."

The trailer to the video, which is just under three minutes long, was edited specifically to appeal to the 100,000 plus

visitors to the festival and was shown twice each day on the large screens at the main stage.

In the meantime another well-known voice can be heard on the latest production by the force television unit. BBC Radio 2 presenter Alan Dedicoat also known for being "the voice of the balls" on the national lottery has provided the voice-over for an Essex Community Foundation charity video.

Music Festival features police video production

Ten dead in less than one week on the roads of Essex

Crash chaos

by Kim Perks

A FATHER and his two children, aged nine and 13, were among those killed on the Essex roads during one of the grimmest Bank Holiday weekends in the county's history.

The crash carnage began on Friday afternoon on the M11 when three HGVs and four cars were involved in a pile-up which claimed four lives and left sections of the motorway closed for nearly 24 hours.

The children, from Kent, had been travelling with their father and his partner in an Astra. Only the woman survived and she suffered serious injuries. The fourth person who died was alone in a Peugeot which was crushed and then caught fire.

A German lorry driver has since been charged with four counts of causing death by dangerous driving.

Saturday may have been quiet but by Sunday the chaos had returned. A Fiesta containing three youths in their late

teens left the road and collided with an electricity transformer. Again a fire took hold and officers had to resort to dental records to carry out identifications. Two more families had lost children.

On the same day a tanker containing hot glucose overturned on its approach to the A13. Another serious injury, a hefty operation to retrieve the load, plus a potential environmental hazard and barrier repair which closed the road for days.

Elsewhere on the A13 a car left the road and landed in a ditch. Thankfully the four occupants escaped with relatively minor injuries but the 22-year-old driver found himself up in court on drink drive charges.

Bank Holiday Monday brought two more deaths and a further arrest. First a motorcyclist in his 20s came off his bike in Waltham Abbey and later died. In

Little Horkesley a two car crash left a 17-year-old dead and a second man arrested for causing death by dangerous driving.

By Wednesday the death toll was into double figures when yet another motorcyclist meet his fate in Latchingdon.

Overall the figures for the year to date make gloomy reading. During the first eight months of this year there have been 79 deaths and 5,344 injuries compared to 54 deaths and 6,239 injuries during the same period last year.

Assistant Chief Constable Joe Edwards said: "The casualty rate is a cause for great concern. There is a reason for every one of these deaths and injuries and I am appealing to motorists to take personal responsibility for making our roads safer.

"There is frequent criticism from some drivers of police efforts to enforce speed limits and save life and limb, but little is said publicly about the toll of death and injury - the awfulness of which has to be witnessed to be understood."

OVER ten years knowledge and experience of youth crime issues has led to Deputy Chief Constable Charles Clark being seconded to the Youth Justice Board, based in London for a period of six months. Mr Clark has a leading role for the police service nationally on issues concerning young people. He is the secretary of the ACPO Youth Issues Group and represents the police services on a number of Government working groups on the same subject.

The Youth Justice Board has for some time been keen to have increased involvement of the police service within the Board and ACPO has expressed a desire to establish closer ties. Supt Dave Wakelin from Nottinghamshire Police has already taken up

Deputy to raise youth profile

his secondment and will be joined by Mr Clark at the end of October.

They hope to bring the problems of youth crime to the fore, influence the decisions on policing of young people and thus have direct involvement in the future policies which the Government may introduce. They will also keep the police service informed and updated.

Mr Clark said: "I am delighted to be given the

chance to take on the secondment to the Youth Justice Board and am looking forward to contributing to the current and future thinking. I hope to ensure that issues involving young people, the police and the Youth Justice Board are brought into clear focus to the benefit of the local communities and young people themselves."

Whilst Mr Clark is away from the force the job of Deputy Chief Constable is to be shared between ACC(O) Joe Edwards and ACC(C) John Broughton, for three months each, with Mr Edwards undertaking the first period. Current Range Two Superintendents are being asked for expressions of interest to perform Acting Assistant Chief Constable duties over the period of the secondment.

Crucial advice on public safety

A BOOKLET designed to provide advice for the safe planning and management of public events has been endorsed by Assistant Chief Constable Joe Edwards at its launch.

Safety at Public Events has been produced by the Essex Emergency Services Co-ordinating Group and is aimed at people who are organising any planned activity where members of the public are invited.

"This invaluable booklet is free of charge and available from libraries and Citizen Advice Bureaux," said ACC Edwards. "It goes a long way to ensuring public safety is maintained and that the event is a happy occasion for all concerned."

The advice highlights the event organisers' responsibilities towards health and safety and outlines the principles of safe management through risk assessment. It is not intended to replace the need for consultation with local authorities or the emergency services.

Law letters

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

Thanks for such a memorable farewell

I HAVE just completed 30 years' service with Essex Police and during this time I have served at Grays, Chelmsford, Harlow and finally on the Fraud Squad at HQ (latterly at Brentwood).

I have thoroughly enjoyed this period in my life and have met some truly decent, hard working, dedicated people.

May I take this opportunity to say thank you to a few people?

Firstly, to my colleagues on the Economic Crime Unit, as it is now called, for all their guidance and

help in the past six years and for the kind wishes on leaving. I am going to miss you all. Good luck to you in the newly formed unit, I know you will make it work.

All those that attended my farewell bash on July 26, for making it such a memorable occasion, especially my good friends and colleagues from Harlow, who went to the trouble and expense of hiring a minibus.

To Paul Tindal for the excellent speech he made, although surely it cannot have been me he was

talking about?

To Steve Reynolds for taking the time out to say goodbye and to thank me on behalf of Essex Police.

Finally, to all those I have worked with who were unable to attend my leaving do, due to other commitments.

I look forward to the next phase of my life, in the hope that it is as enjoyable and rewarding as the last.

Ex-Ds Albie Morhall
Hatfield Peverel

Calling all web masters

COLLEAGUES, as an avid computer user in my spare time, I include web building as a hobby. I often speak with other people about this aspect of computing and was not entirely surprised at the number of you who have a similar interest.

Numerous people seem to have their own website but as with all non-commercial enterprises the appeal to the world wide web is often very limited. We all build our sites, create the meta-tags, paste them in, and rely on a "Site Submission" for our listings.

I am trying to create a "Webring" for members of this organisation to collectively pool their sites, thus hopefully providing a community, audience and forum for interested people.

I would like to stress at this stage that it will not be a 'job' orientated site - indeed I would prefer the site to remain totally anonymous to any contributors occupation.

The idea is to create one central website (which is already almost complete) and quite simply place links on it to other peoples sites.

I am also quite keen to have a page for people to advertise items for sale or rent (eg holiday homes) etc.

Perhaps pages could be used to advertise projects you are trying to advertise - I know of one colleague for example who runs a fantasy football league on the web.

Anyone interested in the project can contact me on my work email at paddy.cocks@essex.police.uk or home on paddy@m2vg.co.uk or on extension 55410.

All I ask for in return is a link on your page to the M2vg webring and a logo to be placed on your site.

You can also visit the website as it develops at www.m2vg.co.uk.

Paddy Cocks
Thurrock Desk, FIR

Searching for force of '67

I AM anxious to track one or more of the former officers serving in the Essex Constabulary as it was in 1967.

Over the years, one way and another, I have lost touch and I would be grateful if anyone from this era could contact the editors of *The Law* who will pass on my particulars.

One or two may even be visiting this area during the summer season - plenty of very reasonable B&B here.

Ex-Sgt Roy Hales
Denbeighshire

You gave superb support

WE would like to thank friends and colleagues of all ranks for the tremendous support given to us since our tragic loss.

It has become customary to moan and gripe at Essex Police about a lot of things recently, but I can say that the support shown to us at this time has been superb. Thank you.

Sgt Paul Davey and family, Braintree

Tribute to two loyal and professional colleagues

I RECENTLY noted in *The Law* the passing of two former colleagues, namely Sgt Albert 'Bert' Howard and Pc Alan Cable. I would like to pay this small tribute.

As an apprehensive recruit in the 60s I was posted to Romford where Sgt Howard was one of the first officers I met. Straight away I was impressed with his smartness and obvious efficiency. He welcomed me in a very 'human' manner which was a great confidence booster.

We turned out to be two of the last Essex officers to be posted back into the county following the Metropolitan takeover of Romford and strangely we were both posted to the north of the county. I must admit I wondered how 'Bert' would settle into the rural scene in charge of a section of mature and experienced officers, but he took this challenge in his stride and soon won the respect of his new colleagues and those under his supervision.

Pc Alan Cable was a true Essex man and his early service took him south to the Tilbury area. Eventually he came north and took the detached beat at Elsenham. He was one of the first officers

in the old Saffron Walden division to be afforded the 'luxury' of gaining permission to purchase his own house. I recall his concern about the mortgage repayments at £22 per month.

Alan was blessed with many enviable qualities, not least his marvellous 'dry' sense of humour. I remember one occasion when officers at an airshow were given loud hailer to make themselves heard when clearing traffic. At the debrief it was noted that Alan's section of road had rather more parked vehicles than the rest and he was asked his opinion on the loud hailer. He replied: "Well sir - they do look very nice but unfortunately it wasn't until I handed mine in that I was told you have to press a little button to make yourself heard."

Alan also had a marvellous temperament having the ability to always appear calm in any situation.

Both of these officers served the Essex Police with loyalty, dignity and professionalism laced with tasteful good humour. I was very privileged to have known and served with them.

Dave Rose, Cambridgeshire

Friends at funeral was a great comfort

I WRITE on behalf of my mother-in-law Gladys Illingworth of Leigh-on-Sea. She wishes to convey her thanks to all the former colleagues of her husband Harry Illingworth for their attendance at his funeral in July.

Unfortunately failing eyesight prevented her from being able to recognise and speak personally with each one but she was aware that they were present and it was of great comfort to her.

Jill Illingworth, Wickford

Collection gave us a well-earned break

WE would like to thank all those within Harlow division who contributed towards a collection for us, which raised a large amount of money.

The money was used to pay for a holiday in Cornwall, which we have just returned from.

It was very enjoyable and we can't thank you enough for giving us this break from the stress and strains we are having due to the illness. Thank you all.

Mick and Sally Page, Harlow

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Internet manager appointed

THE web pages of the Essex Police internet are set to develop further following the appointment of a full-time manager.

David White, who previously worked in the force's television unit as a video producer, originally took over responsibility for the web site as an interim measure, until a manager was officially appointed. The new role sits within the 20-strong Media & Public Relations Department.

Interest in the Essex Police site has risen considerably in the past two years with the number of daily page views over 1,000 per day. A comprehensive police recruitment section sees an average of 12 online inquiries a day.

David said: "Feedback from the site has so far has been very positive, showing that people really want to take an active role in making our communities a safer place to live and work. I am sure that as the cost of connecting to the internet continues to fall, many more people will be encouraged to get 'on-line'."

Get involved! - let us know what you think of the Essex Police Internet Site or simply put forward some new ideas. Write to *The Law* editor with your views or email david.white@essex.police.uk.

Response to intruder systems will change under new policies

Alarming number of false activations

NEW policies on responding to intruder alarms and other incidents are to be introduced by Essex Police.

They are aimed jointly at reducing waste of police time and supporting road safety.

The first step concerns intruder alarms and will take effect on October 1.

At present, all intruder alarm activations passed on by security firm monitoring centres - known as central stations - are subject to an immediate attendance by Essex Police.

Research has shown that more than one-third of all immediate response incidents involves alarms. Yet more than 90 per cent of the alarm activations are false, usually due to keyholder error or equipment fault.

The cost of the police time wasted in answering these false calls is put at £480,000 a year - the equivalent of 17 full-time police constables.

Under the new policy, police attendance in response to intruder alarms linked to a central station will only be classed as immediate if it is

by Peter Laurie

known there is a threat to anyone at the scene.

Otherwise the response will be prioritised for attendance as soon as possible.

The second phase of the policy change involves a new call grading system for responses to all incidents. A starting date has still to be fixed.

The regrading will see the existing five response levels reduced to three.

The targets of police attending an immediate response incident within ten minutes in an urban area and 20 minutes in rural territory will remain.

But the highest level will be renamed emergency response and will only be used when there is an immediate danger or threat of personal injury.

The three new grades are:

- Emergency response - immediate danger or threat of personal injury.
- Managed response - any other incident which requires police

attendance. Arrival time will depend on the gravity of the situation. Officers will be able to use blue lights and sirens on their vehicles only if this is necessary to proceed through traffic safely when prompt attendance is required.

● Non-attendance - when an incident needs to be recorded but does not require a police presence.

Assistant Chief Constable (Operations) Joe Edwards said: "These are steps which offer benefits to both the police and the public. Road safety will be improved because police car drivers will not be making emergency responses to incidents which do not warrant it and the tightening of the alarms procedure, in line with Association of Chief Police Officers' policy, should avoid a large amount of time being wasted. This means a better service for genuine alarms, as well as the public of Essex generally."

A training programme in the new response gradings is being arranged for staff at Force Information Room and all operational officers.

Leaflet sparks national interest

A CHELMSFORD initiative to inform clubbers and drinkers to be wary of drink spiking has attracted national interest from other forces including the RUC and forces in Scotland and Wales.

Leaflets drawing attention to the increasing menace of spiking, and warning people that drugs are now more frequently being used to commit sexual assault, have been distributed to licensing officers within the county for onward distribution to clubs, pubs and bars.

In Chelmsford the joint initiative between the Drugs Action Team, Mid Essex Drugs and Alcohol Services and Essex Police aims next to contact accident and emergency departments at local hospitals to make them aware.

The leaflet is available from Martin Reed, Licensing officer or Cathy Payne, Crime Reduction officer at Chelmsford.

Awarded for physical determination

OUTSTANDING ability, determination and enthusiasm has won Pc Tina Quinlivan, Basildon the Physical Training Trophy at Ashford. Tina recently completed Stage 2 training and received the trophy for the best student within the specialist training curriculum.

Top ideas reap cash rewards



TWENTY member of staff received financial rewards for their suggestions for improving practices within Essex Police. They received their cheques from Assistant Chief Constable Joe Edwards for a variety of suggestions, some of which have already been accepted as force policy or best practice.

One suggestion was sent anonymously concerning practices within FIR and a cheque for £25 was sent to the Little Haven Children's Hospice. They have sent a letter of thanks saying: "Little Haven Children's Hospice is the only one in Essex and it is so important to keep it open for the children with life limiting and life threatening illnesses and also to support their families. We have to raise money all the time to make sure it is always available and it is people like yourselves that really help. I very big 'thank you' to whoever won the award and donated it to the hospice."

● LEFT: Assistant Chief Constable Joe Edwards presents a cheque to Audrey Tuck from the Little Haven's Hospice.



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Thurrock's CCTV bid is a success

THURROCK Crime Reduction Partnership has been chosen as the only successful bidder in Essex, for a share of £79 million Government funding for new CCTV schemes.

The £845,000 award from the Home Office will provide 24-hour digital CCTV coverage of 13 sites across Grays, Purfleet, Chadwell St Mary, Stanford Le Hope, South Ockendon, Tilbury and Corringham.

The scheme will cover high street, residential and local shopping areas and will contribute to an overall crime reduction target of nearly 2,700 incidents over three years.

Welcoming last month's (Aug) official announcement of the successful bids, Thurrock Divisional Commander, Supt Ian Gruneberg, from Essex police said: "The Thurrock Crime Reduction Partnership has worked hard to obtain the money from the Home Office. It is a real boost to the community to have a monitored CCTV system.

"The experience of towns where CCTV is already used it that it is a major deterrent to criminals and those involved in anti-social behaviour.

"The system will assist those who wish to make Thurrock an even safer place and greatly assist local officers in

bringing those who are involved in crime or disorderly behaviour to the courts," he said.

Thurrock Council's Neighbourhood and Housing Directorate and External Funding Unit worked with Essex police to produce the Thurrock Crime Reduction Partnership bid and was the only successful authority in the Essex area in this round of bidding.

Thurrock's work received praise from the Home Office for its "impressive quality".

Wide consultation has already been carried out and a series of meetings will be held to discuss the final positioning for the 210 cameras.

Since the announcement that Thurrock had made it through to the second stage of the Government's national CCTV programme in March, the bid has been upgraded to state-of-the-art technology.

The £845,000, together with a further £83,000 from the council, will finance CD-based CCTV equipment. The digital technology means that images from the cameras are clearer, can be stored more easily and are tamper-proof.

Thurrock will be one of the first authorities to move away from the old-style video cassette systems.

Gendarme's daughter seeks penfriend

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD Alizee Nicot, from France, who is the daughter of a Gendarme, is seeking an English girl penfriend of about the same age and has asked if any readers of *The Law* can help.

Alizee, who has two younger brothers,

enjoys horse-riding, swimming and rollers and likes Britney Spears and Harry Potter.

If you know someone interested in becoming a pen pal, contact Tina Noble on 01245 491491 ext 51524 who will pass on the details to Alizee's family.



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Muddy but marvellous

THE smiles on their faces say it all. Not even the wet and cloudy start to the day was going to dampen the spirits of the guests at this year's Essex Police 4 x 4 Fun Day, writes Kathryn Solman.

The buses having done their pick ups around the county converged on Thurrock where they were met by Superintendent Ian Brown and Chief Inspector Halsey. The clowns joined the buses to entertain the children on the way to Hop Farm and each child had a goodie bag to keep the occupied on the journey.

Meanwhile at Hop Farm last minute preparation was underway to provide the kids with a brilliant day, The disco got set up, the Military Police manned the barbecues, and the food trailer was made ready. Police dogs Sabre and Kane were on hand with their Pc friends Paul Nicholls and Trevor Edhouse to endure hours of petting by the kids, and finally Basil Bear with his new friend 'Welle Ele the Phant' waited with baited breathe for the arrival of the buses.

Jeremy Spake arrived and armed with stickers he greeted every child as they disembarked from the buses. He made on little boy's day by presenting him with a birthday card and everyone sang Happy Birthday. Jeremy then made a welcome speech in the barn and the dancing began! YMCA was not Welle-ele and Basil's strong point as I'm sure they were both dyslexic.

Then came the best part of all - the off road course. As there had been a bit (!!) of rain the course was decidedly muddy and the kids loved it. Nearly every vehicle at some point got stuck and it was only the 'old hands' who remained unscathed. The military guys were kept busy pulling them out of the mud.

Basil and Welle-ele managed to squeeze into a 4 x 4 and although Basil had been on a diet since last year and was only allowed seconds at lunchtime and not thirds, it was inevitable that with these two in the car they would get stuck.

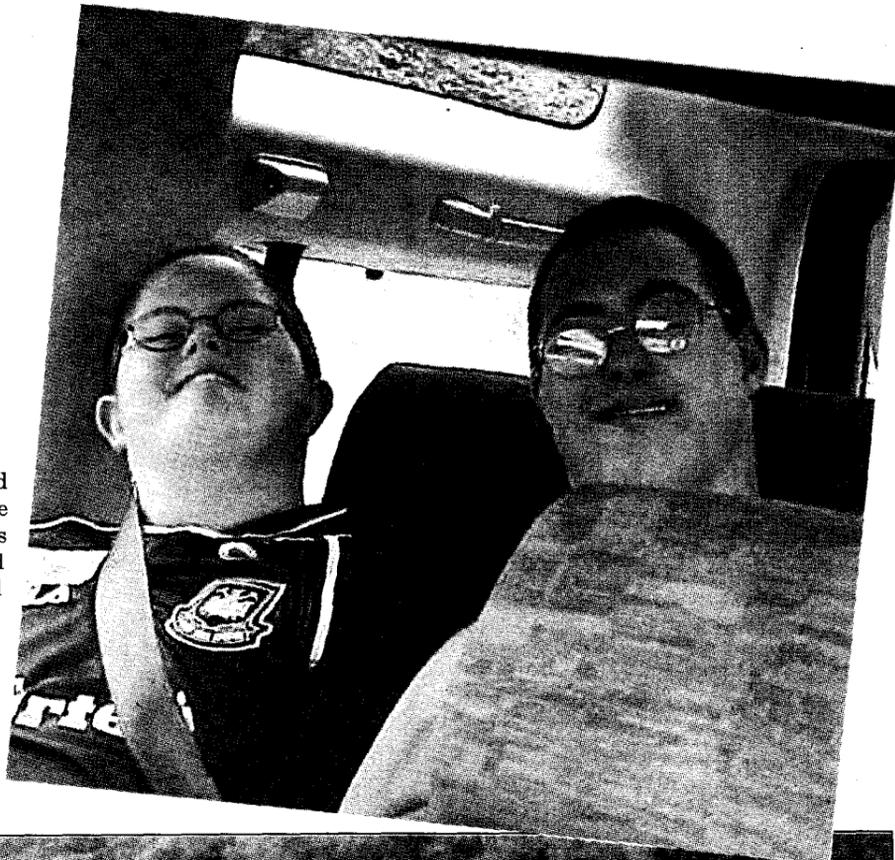
The food flowed freely from the barbecue and the drinks from the kitchen. The ladies from Asda at South Woodham Ferrers had brought biscuits, drinks and goodies for the return journey and at 4pm the kids got back on the buses and were

waved off.

For us the clear up began, clearing tables and hosing down vehicles before we could all sit on the M25 for in traffic on the way back! But it was worth it - all the hard work, preparation, mild panic and heart failure pays off when you see all the happy, smiling, tired faces (and that's just us!).

The committee would like to express its Thanks to everyone who helped on the day and the sponsors great and small - without their help this event could never be staged.

Your support is greatly appreciated and roll on next year!!!!



Crime detection will form next 'best value' project

THE next review to be undertaken by the Best Value Team will be 'Detecting Crime'. It will consider the process from the initial reporting of an offence and its subsequent investigation, to its eventual disposal. The review will focus on the investigation of burglary, autocrime and violent crime offences.

An important part of all best value reviews is consultation, particularly with those involved in the process. Following the success of the workshops held

during the intelligence review, more will be held as part of this review and key practitioners will be invited to take part.

A more detailed account of the review's progress will appear in the

October edition of *The Law*.

Charles Clark, Deputy Chief Constable, who is the chief officer with responsibility for best value said: "The detection of crime has been included in the Best Value Review Programme because it is an area

where we need to do better. This review will enable us to find best practice within the force and elsewhere. The key to it will be the involvement of practitioners and the ability to be constructively critical of what we do currently."

Regular updates on progress of the review will be posted on the Best Value website on the intranet and in forthcoming editions of *The Law*. However, if you have any questions or comments please contact the Best Value Team.

Update on intelligence review

FOLLOWING the review, the final report including 33 conclusions, has recently been accepted by the Police Authority's Best Value Assurance. The conclusions now need to go before the full Police Authority in September before being finally accepted.

Once the review's findings have been finally accepted the newly appointed Director of Intelligence, Detective Superintendent Wil

Kennedy, will be responsible for overseeing their implementation.

Neville A. Brown JP, Chairman of the Police Authority's Best Value Assurance Panel said: "It is recognised that authorities should be prepared to critically examine their published Five Year Plans and, when appropriate, to make changes to their published programmes. Recent concerns about the force's performance for

detecting crime have been the main reason for now making this the subject of the Authority's third best value review.

Having been impressed by the success of the process-led approach adopted for the 'Intelligence' review, Members have supported the Best Value Team's proposals to adopt these same thorough, cross-cutting techniques for the 'Detecting Crime' review."

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Walk raises charity cash

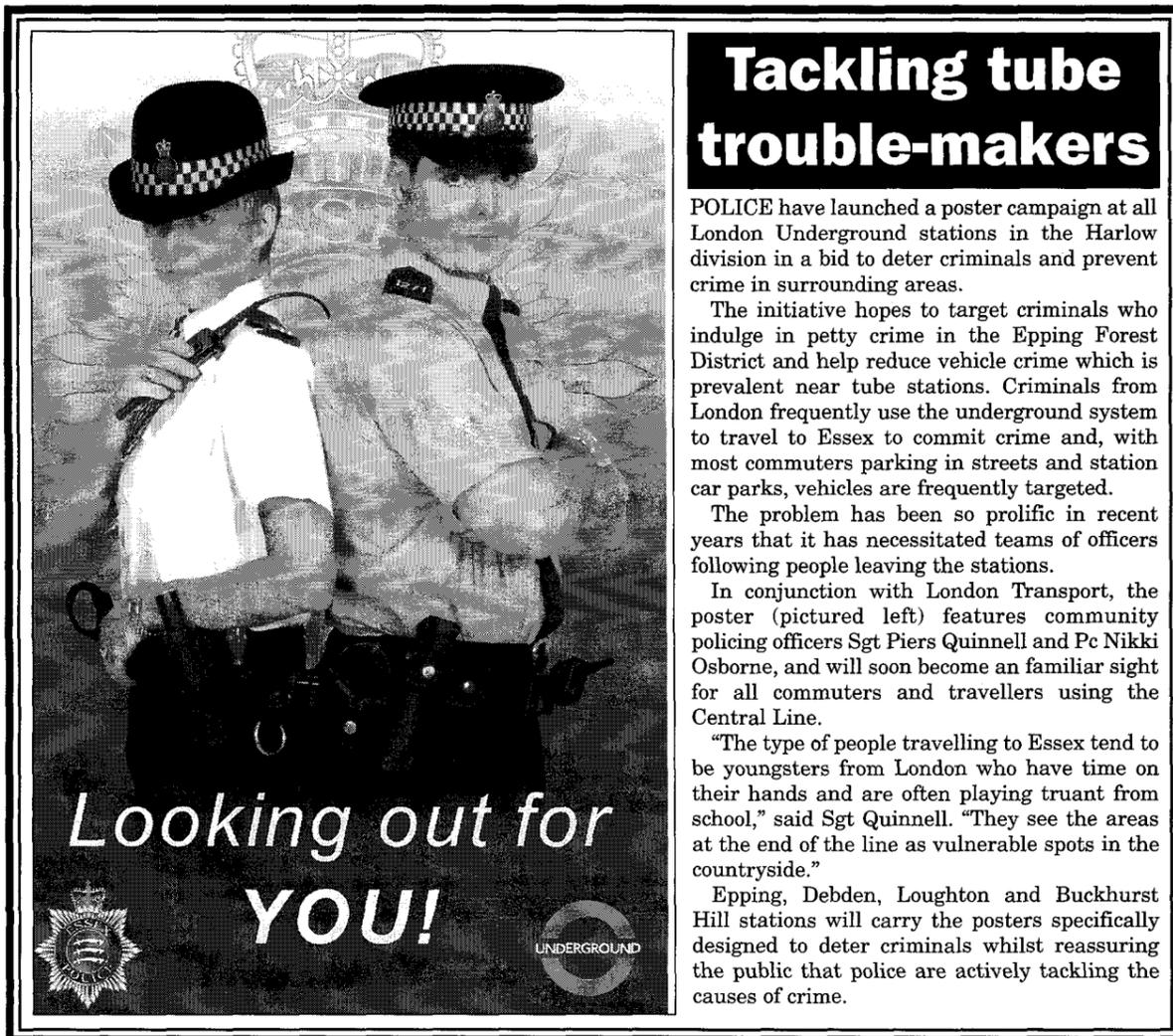
OVER £1,000 was raised for the Essex Air Ambulance by 22 members of the HQ Sports & Social club who put their best feet forward and completed a sponsored walk in Southend in May.

A cheque for £1,144 was presented to Roland Chesney, Essex Air Ambulance by Supt John Mauger.

Say it with flowers

IT'S nice to be appreciated, and six weeks of feeding the troops searching for missing schoolgirl Danielle Jones was rewarded with a big bunch of flowers for Mandy Wilson.

Mandy, who usually works at the training centre's canteen and lives in the Chelmsford area, manned the mobile canteen in Tilbury every day to keep search officers fed and watered and at the end of her tour of duty they clubbed together for the welcome surprise.



Tackling tube trouble-makers

POLICE have launched a poster campaign at all London Underground stations in the Harlow division in a bid to deter criminals and prevent crime in surrounding areas.

The initiative hopes to target criminals who indulge in petty crime in the Epping Forest District and help reduce vehicle crime which is prevalent near tube stations. Criminals from London frequently use the underground system to travel to Essex to commit crime and, with most commuters parking in streets and station car parks, vehicles are frequently targeted.

The problem has been so prolific in recent years that it has necessitated teams of officers following people leaving the stations.

In conjunction with London Transport, the poster (pictured left) features community policing officers Sgt Piers Quinnell and Pc Nikki Osborne, and will soon become a familiar sight for all commuters and travellers using the Central Line.

"The type of people travelling to Essex tend to be youngsters from London who have time on their hands and are often playing truant from school," said Sgt Quinnell. "They see the areas at the end of the line as vulnerable spots in the countryside."

Epping, Debden, Loughton and Buckhurst Hill stations will carry the posters specifically designed to deter criminals whilst reassuring the public that police are actively tackling the causes of crime.

Looking out for YOU!

UNDERGROUND

Police equality on the menu

THE LESBIAN and Gay Police Association will be celebrating its 12th anniversary by hosting a formal dinner event in Manchester this month.

The annual event will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Saturday, September 22, where the chief executive of Stonewall Angela Mason OBE will be the VIP guest. The advisor to the Mayor of London will also present the Matthew Windibank award to the person or organisation contributing most to the progression of lesbian and gay equality in the police service.

LAGPA is the national staff association which represents lesbian and gay officers, support staff and special constables. Chairperson Paul Cahill has been encouraged by the numbers of lesbian and gay staff 'coming out' at work.

"There has been a positive knock-on effect for wider police-community relations," said Insp Cahill. "This dinner event will be an evening where people can join in a decade of celebrations in which the police service has become far more inclusive."

The event is open to both members and non-members with tickets and information available by contacting the LAGPA 24-hour action line on 07020 911922.

A welfare boost

AN annual freeze in this year's subscription rate to the Essex Police Benevolent Fund has boosted membership, with more officers encouraged to join a scheme which helps ensure their welfare through into retirement.

The registered charity, chaired by Chief Constable David Stevens, offers facilities to officers injured whilst on duty or to the families of those killed. A monthly payment of £5.54 enables Essex Police to provide care assistance not normally available to others.

A large proportion of this money is channelled towards the running costs of the national police convalescence home, with the remainder donated to the national charity for police orphans and the Police Dependence Trust.

Based in Oxfordshire, Flint House offers a relaxing environment where officers, retired and serving, from around the country can undergo intensive rehabilitation sessions or physiotherapy for injury or illness. At only a cost of £3.60 per month, the convalescence home also provides psychological support and an opportunity to ensure people regain full fitness before returning home. The facilities at Flint House enable nearly 100 officers to reside at any one time.

The benevolent fund is first brought to the attention of officers at probationer level where a welfare officer will discuss the benefits and

by Nishan Wijeratne

merits of the scheme. The Benevolent Fund does not have the resources though to subsidise any medical expenses.

Mick Tarbin was an officer for 29 years before joining the fund as the Benevolent Fund Liaison Officer.

"We can help facilitate the majority of claims, from the funding of a stairlift for their home to a period of rehabilitation following an operation," said Mr Tarbin. "We will usually be in a position to assist them whether they be serving or retired officers."

The welfare department is notified of injury or illness sustained by an officer and will content that person to assess their needs and discuss the options open to them.

Welfare Officer Vickie Bond says: "It usually takes around four weeks before someone can physically attend Flint House. However, with forward planning on known cases this can be reduced to as little as a couple of days."

Each Essex Police division has a committee, chaired by the divisional commander, which will investigate each case and furnish a report to them to decide the amount of money allocated. Members of the public regularly donate money to the fund. Any officer wishing to find out more about the force benevolent fund should contact the welfare department at Essex Police Training Centre.

US students patrol Brentwood

LAW students from Chicago recently visited Essex Police to broaden their knowledge of criminal justice systems.

Hosted by Inspector Peter French based at Brentwood, the trip involved students from the College of Du Page.

They were given a tour of the scenes of crime laboratory, FIR and the museum at police headquarters. They then visited

Brentwood where they met officers and support staff and were given an input into crime and disorder and intelligence-led policing as well as being taken out on patrol.

Professor Dennis Hudson, leading the party said: "We were very impressed with the professionalism of Essex Police. The visit to Brentwood and meeting with the officers is one of the highlights of our two week tour."

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Policing can be a fishy business

THIRTY-FIVE years service to Essex Police and a love of fishing have been the two main occupations of Pc Neil Everard who has retired from the Mobile Support division.

His first posting was to Saffron Walden in 1965 followed by a move to traffic in 1971 as one of a team of four, where he worked on the M1 at Watford to gain motorway experience prior to the opening of the M11.

Neil has received two commendations for his actions as a traffic officer and a commendation from the Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire when he was caught up in a murder whilst off duty and fishing. He has loved fishing since he

was ten-years-old, especially match fishing and has won the force Kingfisher cup six times as well as the inter divisional pairs on seven occasions. During the 1970's he ran a disco providing music for charity functions in Essex and Cambridgeshire. Not surprisingly retirement will see Neil with fishing rod in hand, both selling fishing tackle and bait, and giving instruction to those new to the sport.

Pc Bill Davies who joined in 1971, has retired after 30 years' service with his last posting at Grays.

Pc Keith Gurney has retired after 30 years' service. His last posting was with the NCS at Hainault.

Sgt Henry Moran retires this month from Southend division after 30 years' service.

Working for three Assistant Chief Constables during her 26 years' service **Pat Oram** will be sad to leave her colleagues behind but is looking forward to taking it easy and enjoying trips to France. Pat joined the typing pool in 1974 and moved to the chief officers secretariat in 1978. She retires as

secretary to Deputy Chief Constable Charles Clark and says it has been interesting and varied work. Pat has two daughters and will now be making plans to celebrate her 40th wedding anniversary.

One of the longest serving Chelmsford division SOAs, **Lesley Steel**, is leaving after 19 years to spend more time with her daughter and become a registered childminder. Lesley, aged 38, says there have been many high and lows over the years and she will miss the banter and challenges of the job. She is however looking forward to her career change and if you are in need of a childminder in the Tiptree area why not give her a call on 01621 819106.

Names in the news

Obituaries

FORMER constable **Marilyn Hall** has died aged 61. Miss Hall who lived at Epping served at Harlow, Brentwood and Epping CID. Her funeral took place in Harlow with donations, if desired to Animal Welfare.

James Wantling who served for 26 years at Chelmsford, Southminster, Aveley and Stanford Le Hope, and retired as a sergeant in 1963 has died in Australia, aged 88. He leaves a widow Lorna.

Former inspector **Arthur Marshall** has died aged 79 years. He served from 1948 to 1982 at Brentwood, Pitsea, Writtle, Chelmsford, HQ and Clacton. His funeral took place in his home town of Tiptree. He leaves a widow Dawn.

It's worth it for the welfare

SOME retired officers are very slow to join NARPO and ask that all too boring question, "What does NARPO do for me?" Below is one exceptional reason to join.

One of the many aims of NARPO is to ensure the good welfare of its members and their widows. Without the camaraderie of the job there is the danger of losing touch, loneliness and the sheer terror of being widowed with the added responsibilities that losing a partner can bring.

Our welfare committee members have had a number of incidents since taking up their posts. One such incident involved an elderly widow whose family was incapable of looking after her. She was in despair not knowing where or who to turn to. Fortunately a member heard of her plight and was able to put our welfare officers in touch with her. Although her husband was not a member they were able to help her.

The experience we have as ex-police officers enables the branches of NARPO in Essex to provide a first



class social calendar, regular contact at a level chosen by the individual member and effective support when things go bad, at a minimal cost.

Colchester and North East branch news

THE barbecue at Joan and Jim Watson's was a great day and the trip to Bruges a resounding success. 44 members attended the quarterly meeting and the Jack the Ripper talk by Gary Egerton was extremely entertaining.

Friday, October 5: We will be reporting back on the conference at Clacton Police Station at 7.30pm. Bob Young will also give a talk on *The Jaywick Story*.

Wednesday, December 5: The Thursday Christmas Spectacular Trip. Contact below for your tickets.

Branch Secretary Reg Shelley 01206 547739

Chelmsford branch news

Friday, October 19: Cruising on the River Chelmer. Leaving Paper Mill Lock at 5pm for a four-hour cruise. Cost £10 per head includes buffet. Tickets from John Maloney 01376 342196.

Branch Secretary Tony Cooper 01376 329563 or email cls254ps@aol.com

Southend branch news

AS part of the 40th anniversary of Southend Police Station we have received an invitation to a reception at Porters by The Mayor of Southend to be held at 3pm Friday, October 5. All ex-Southend NARPO members, widows and partners are invited. Contact Bob Craven.

Social activities: Mike and Alan have been very busy with arranging events so please give your support:

Saturday, November 17: Shopping Trip to Calais, **Tuesday, December 4:** Ceremony of the Keys Tower of London, **Friday, December 21:** Xmas Do, **Saturday, January 12:**

Sales Shopping followed by *King and I* show, **Thursday, March 7:** Ripping Yarns Tour of London, **Friday, April 19:** AGM & Social Southend Police Club, **Saturday, June 8:** Derby Day, **June 14/15:** - 40th Anniversary Southend Police Station

Contact Mike Beaveridge on 01702 529985 or 01702 421176 or email on mbaconsulting@connectfree.co.uk or write to him at 17 The Spinneys, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 5QZ.

Contact cascade system

A SYSTEM of contact known as a cascade has now been put together so that events and occurrences in the branch can be circulated to all members as quickly as possible. This will be sent out during the next few weeks with an explanatory letter. Let me know if you do not want to participate or have any other problems with it.

Branch Secretary Bob Craven 01702 582750 or email:sg@tinyworld.co.uk or write to 20 Marcus Chase, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 3LG

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COSTA BLANCA newly built apartment on privately owned development. Large sun terrace and barbecue, beautifully furnished, sleeps up to 6. Communal pool. 5 mins walk to beaches, 10 mins drive to championship golf courses. Contact Rachel or Ian on 01948 820107 or 07711 333080.

CUMBRIA Ravenstonedale, delightful B&B, unspoiled village, convenient for lakes and dales, Eden valley. All rooms en suite, TV and hairdryer, coffee/tea, excellent walking, golf nearby. Two pub/restaurants in village. Contact Neil and Pauline Brook on 01539 623641 or 07890 360972.

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FORD Escort 1.8LX 5 door hatchback, R reg, 27,000 miles, air con, spoiler, excellent condition, one owner. Metallic aubergine, £5,250. Tel: Wendie 01245 380437.

FOR SALE J reg, late 1991, silver Mazda MX5, 16ltr, British spec, CD/radio, alarm, immobiliser,

taxed, MOT, excellent condition, rollbar, £5,250. Contact Neil Seymour on 01268 693255.

ORLANDO. Luxury villa, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, sleeps up to 10. Private screened pool, near Disney and other Central Florida attractions. For more details contact 01376 573406.

RECLINING settees, pair of two seater, dusky pink colour £100ono. Contact David Wicks on 01245 491491, ednet 52543.

SCOOTER Kymco Scout 50cc, S reg, only 300 miles from new £750. Tel 01376 563505 or see Janice Seaber in FIR.

SCOTTISH Highlands. Self catering in 1 bed or 4 bed bungalow. Or stay in an Austrian-style home on B&B basis, or full board. Skiing, fishing, shooting, walking and bird-watching or just relaxing. Contact Andy Nunn on 01479 841717.

SILVER Cross drop side cot with mattress, good cond, light wood, 4 years old, £65ono. Contact Clare on 07929 257811.

SKI Serrre Chevalier France. Fully furnished studio sleeps four. Prices £120 to £300 per week. Call Pc Jeff Kettle at Rochford on 01702 547241 ednet 34181.

Comrades lunch

THE Essex Police Comrades' Association autumn lunch takes place on Friday, November 2, at the Essex Police Training Centre, starting at 1pm.

If you have any special dietary requirements or mobility problems, please let Sue Kelly know as soon as possible on 01245 452797/9.

The sports pavilion bar will be open from 11.30am to 1pm. Booking forms and a cheque for £14 should be sent to Sue Kelly at the Police Federation Office, at HQ, to arrive no later than Friday, October 19.

Tickets will be issued by Monday, October 22. Unfortunately, for administrative reasons, any bookings after this date can only be included in the final numbers in exceptional circumstances.

Romford reunion

THE planned reunion for officers who served in the former Romford division will take place at Essex Police HQ, in Springfield on Saturday, September 22.

The bar in the sports pavilion will open at 11.30am and lunch will be served at 1pm.

Organiser Stu Mather said he has had a good verbal and written response, but needs firm bookings, to enable him to tell the caterers how many will be attending.

To book, please send a cheque for £14, made payable to S P Mather, to Stu Mather, 25 Queens Avenue, Tower Park, Pooles Lane, Hullbridge, SS5 6PS, as soon as possible.

Said Stu: "Should the numbers be less than required for a buffet at the price quoted, I may have to alter the menu. Either way the event will definitely take place."

After summer success society prepares for *Fiddler on the Roof*

Rave reviews

Rave reviews were rife after the Essex Police Musical Society's Summer Concert. To quote the Eastern News: "the programme was well put together and produced a very entertaining evening for the very full house audience . . . the company acquitted themselves extremely well and . . . the show flowed from opening to final curtain."

Lottery winners

THE result of the August lottery is as follows: £1,500 William Middleditch, HQ; £750 Pc Graham Lawrence, EPTC; £375 Insp Jon Dodman, HQ; £200 Jacqueline Barrett, Southend.

The following will receive £50 consolation prizes: Pc Richard O'Mahony, Braintree; Pc Anthony Law, Rayleigh; Dc Anthony Boughey, Stanway MIT; Mr F Holden, retired; Sgt Thomas O'Brien; Det Insp Peter Orpe, Braintree; Insp Ian Debbage, MSD; Richard Cocks, HQ; Pc Peter Mathieson, Colchester; Pc Paul Mower, Waltham Abbey.

Bargain bonanza

THERE are several items for sale at bargain prices in the Force Sports Shop, including all sorts of cricket footwear, batting and wicket-keeping gloves, plus various oddments.

The shop hours continue to be 10am-2pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10am-1pm every Saturday.

The concert had a cast of 27 performers who covered extracts from 56 songs. With such a wonderful range of material, the biggest challenge was singing the right chorus for the right song. Everyone on and off the stage was justifiably proud of the results of their hard work.

Receptive audiences on three nights were invited to sing along to classic favourites ranging from the Music Hall era through the decades.

Fiddler on the Roof will be the next show with rehearsals starting in September for performances from February 18 to February 23, 2002 at the HQ assembly hall. It will be the second production of this much loved classic and although we shouldn't let on, there are a few members taking part in 2002 who were in the original 1984 production - they insist they were child performers at the time.

The society is going from strength to strength having been in existence for over 40 years and attracts a wide age range from 15 to . . . well that would be telling. So anyone who wants to have a go at treading the boards or helping with the all-important work that goes on behind the scenes is encouraged to do so (see advert). News of the society will soon be appearing on both the intranet and internet too.

The next venture for the society, for the third year running, will see them join forces with the force choir and band for an October concert at Christchurch, London Road, Chelmsford on Friday October 19 and Saturday, October 20, but tickets are available only for Friday.

Essex Police is proud to be the only force in the country to boast a musical society, a band and a choir.

Jenny Hillyard and Sally Skidmore



ESSEX POLICE MUSICAL SOCIETY
COME AND JOIN US!

We are on the lookout for new members both to tread the boards and to help with a variety of roles behind the scenes.

As well as performers, our stage manager is always keen to welcome help with props, lighting, sound, make-up, backstage crew, costumes and scenery.

All standards are welcome - it's the taking part that matters! We have a great deal of fun whilst producing sell-out shows - it's a very rewarding way of spending your spare time.

We are also looking for someone to help with refreshments on a Monday and/or a Thursday evening at rehearsals. This could possibly suit a retired person who would like the opportunity to get out and about and make new friends.

For further information on any of the above, please contact either:

Lynda Barkway	ext. 50739/e-mail
Jenny Hillyard	ext. 50335/e-mail
Sally Skidmore	ext. 50748/e-mail
George Lambeth	ext. 55220/e-mail

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*Sport
and Leisure*

It's third time lucky thanks to Wrigley's ton

Herts to host orienteering

THE annual Police Athletic Association orienteering championship will take place in Hertfordshire this year with five courses designed for competitors of all ages.

The event is to be staged at Ashbridge Estate near Tring on Monday, October 1, and is open to all serving and retired officers and support staff who are members of the PAA.

An entry form can be obtained by contacting Steve Williams from Hertfordshire Constabulary on 01462 628339 or email swill17373@aol.com.

HAVING capitulated at the post in the last two years the Police rescued this match thanks to a sensational display of hitting from opener Wrigley who finished the game 117 not out, won the Reading Cup as man of the match, and may have become the highest run scorer of the 130 match series.

After losing the morning session to overnight rain the game commenced after the traditional lunch at 35 overs per side. Showers during both innings saw the players heading for the pavilion but despite this another close game with an exciting finish was seen.

Having been put in the Tradesmen, openers Cutmore and Patel put on 28 before Patel was bowled. Hasler came to

the wicket and shared partnerships of 41 and 35 in a strong display of batting resulting in two lost balls before falling to an excellent catch from Jones at deep backward square leg off Wrigley.

Hasler was supported well by Hollingsworth who made 26, and he in turn by Gypps who made 30 before falling victim to the wet conditions, being unable to turn and attempt to regain his ground. Bowling last change Stonehouse weighed in with two wickets and a maiden in five overs.

Discomfort

Needing 171 in reply the Police openers Stonehouse and Wrigley were pegged back by Jude and Gypps and after losing two wickets for 18 the Police looked in some discomfort.

Loft came to the crease and scored 19 out a partnership of 65 that took the score to 83 after 20 overs.

Hollingsworth then set about the batting with two wickets, both LBW's to leave it 84 for 5. In stepping up the pace Jones was bowled to become Hollingsworth's third victim and with

the tail beckoning it seemed the Tradesmen's match.

Wrigley, however, had other ideas and began to deliver crashing blows all around the ground. Orpe, for his part in this 54 partnership, pushed singles to allow the opener to have the strike and after crashing two consecutive sixes the Police started to seize the opportunity for the first time. In previous years this type of hitting found fielders making excellent catches in the deep but this time it was third time lucky and the game was won with an over to spare.

In presenting the cup losing Captain Taylor congratulated the Police on their performance and Orpe in acceptance recognised another exciting fixture played in good spirit.

Cross country Croker

THE Croker Cup cross country competition will take place at Gloucester Park, Basildon on Thursday, October 11.

Organiser is Mick Bond, based at Chelmsford.

Improving world class rankings



● Pc Paul Anderson in action in a previous white water competition.

ESSEX Police's Paul Anderson has returned home with the Great Britain White Water Canoe Racing Team after a successful summer tournament in Europe.

Pc Anderson improved on last year's standings in the World Cup Series, the European Championship and the pre-World Championship.

"The Great Britain team received widespread television coverage throughout the two weeks," said the 29-year-old from Chelmsford. "With its crest on my boat, Essex Police is probably now renowned as a force in canoeing. I would like to thank everyone at Essex Police for their support."

The Central Road Policing officer competed in both classic and sprint races in Slovenia and the Czech Republic, before travelling to Italy for the championships.

The Billericay-born officer said: "As long as my arms don't retire on me, I shall attempt to secure an elite ranking for next season."

Pc Anderson will next be competing in the Liffy International race in Ireland, before focusing his efforts on then national championship in autumn.

NEXT ISSUE: October

COPY DEADLINE: September 20, 2001

PRINTED: October 1, 2001

The Law was edited this month by Kim Perks, Helen Cook and Nishan Wijeratne.

Published by Essex Police HQ, Chelmsford. Tel: 01245 491491 ext 50620/50625. Printed by The Essex Chronicle Series, Westway, Chelmsford