

FEBRUARY '71

No. 23

Force dwindles as pay talks drag on

Next month
The Law will
come out on
March 8

Village Bobby cops it



Not many villagers in Essex get the opportunity to assault their local policeman with impunity.

But this happened recently at Moreton. Every year the two village pubs provide teams for a contest, the losing team being put in the stocks and pelted with rotten fruit at a penny a go. This year each pub provided two teams for a "Roman Chariot Race" in which, dressed in togas, they had to transfer buckets of water from one barrel to another during the journey, plunging through the local river. Julian Cooper was representing one of the Nag's Head public-house teams and were fortunate in getting home in second place.

Unfortunately the other team from the Nag's Head came in last and one of this team, the crafty devil, didn't have any old clothes with him so Julian Cooper (wearing the protective helmet) very sportingly offered to take his place. The locals of course couldn't miss the opportunity and Julian was the target of most of the rotten missiles.

The money raised from this (about £30) was put to a fund to improve the village hall.

There is no doubt that Julian, who enjoyed the whole thing immensely as well as improving the takings, has made police and public relations in Moreton even better than they were before.

Photographs by courtesy of the West Essex Gazette.

Footnote: On January 15, Mrs. Cooper presented Julian with a daughter, Maria Elizabeth.

AT A meeting of January 8 the two sides once again agreed to disagree on an increase in police pay and took themselves off until February 11.

The Federation stand admirably firmly on this issue. The Official side needed more time and more facts and had sent out a questionnaire to every Force seeking up-to-date information on recruiting and wastage.

The Official side pointed out that their ten per cent offer was still open and Mr. Griffiths, their spokesman, urged its acceptance. But after an adjournment the Staff Side repeated that they could not accept without knowing details of the second stage of the award.

This second stage hinges upon the recruiting and wastage figures. This Force is one of a small number which is making no headway. During 1970 the size of the Force decreased by eight. But this is not reflected throughout the country. Some areas are much better off than this and bearing in mind that the pay award will be a national one, it is the national "average" position on recruiting that the Official Side will look at.

Conditions

Is wastage a matter only of pay? Some of the letters on page six show there are other factors but if pay was higher many annoyances would be accepted philosophically.

Before the general election last year much was heard of "Law and Order" as a matter of great public urgency. Both sides made electioneering noises indica-

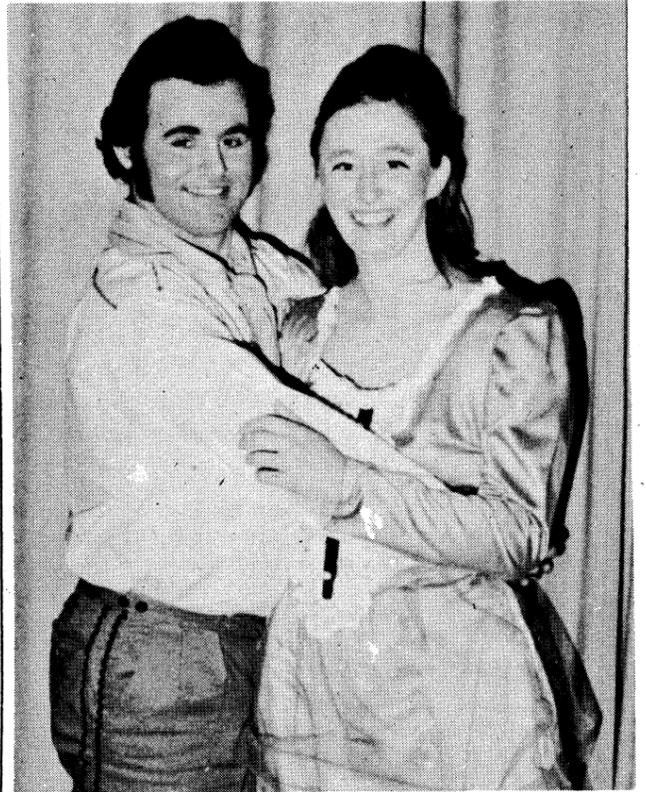
ting their intentions of strengthening the police service. Since the election Law and Order has seemed less important and strengthening the police less urgent.

Last June The Law, under the heading "Fair Warning," foretold the present situation fairly accurately and was taken to task in July for pessimism. But one must remember that a government with a fair majority in their first year of office does not need to make friends of minority groups such as policemen.

Special case

This government has already taken on the power workers and is now taking on the postmen in disputes involving percentage increases far lower than that demanded by the police. The police may be a "special case" but 35% is a lot to ask for without an Oaksey or Willink enquiry to help. Arbitration, which now seems inevitable, must consider all aspects, including inflation, and is unlikely to yield much more than has already been offered.

If this happens there can only be widespread disillusion in the Service as hope,



Leading singers in the H.Q. Musical Society Show "Oklahoma," Clara Smith and Gordon Potter. Full report on page 2.

Shops saved by sharp nose

Prompt action in almost exact Eynsham Hall lesson notes style by a probationary constable with 6 weeks' service, saved the ancient buildings at Headgate Corner, Colchester, last week.

Pc Bob Palmer was on patrol in Crouch Street when he smelt smoke which he eventually traced to the upstairs of a 17th century butcher shop.

Four appliances attended and the fire was extinguished.

however slender, is replaced by reality.

Back them up

Stan Smith, JBB Secretary, in a recent bulletin, explained what the negotiators are doing and urged, "Now it is up to you to back them up."

Whatever happens on

February 11 members of this Force will have the opportunity to have their say at the Force Open Meeting at HQ on March 2. Speakers will include the Chief Constable and Dick Pamplin of the J.C.C.

Stan Smith is at present in hospital. We wish him a swift return to good health.

Cheers — it's milk



AS PART of a don't drink and drive promotion the publicity hounds had the idea of encouraging the consumption of milk instead of more usual festive draughts by picturing policemen quaffing milk in the company of the Dairy Queen of 1970. So they descended upon the Driving School where Sergeant Peter Brown

didn't get out of the way quickly enough and was obliged to drink several glasses. Seen with him are Cadets Stephen Brundle (left), Dennis Hicks and Brian March who were under Peter Brown's instruction that day. The Dairy Queen is an Essex girl, Julie Greenleaf, of Rowhedge, near Colchester.

Bob, Gunda and Flip join the Force



A BUILD-UP in canine power occurred recently when the Dog Section took delivery of three newly-trained teams. Peter Reeve, who took this picture, had his doubts about their degree of doggy self control as they eyed both

him and the camera with interest, but training takes time. From the left: Colin Ball with Bob; Peter Frost with Gunda; and Ray Little holding Flip. All these are already on operational duty in the county.

Do you know your law?

1. The money in respect of a certificate of deposit must be deposited with:—
 (a) Licensing Authority
 (b) Lloyds
 (c) The Bank of England
 (d) The Queen's Bench Division
 (e) The Supreme Court

2. On which of the following types of vehicle can an alternating horn NOT be used:—
 (a) Coastguard vehicle
 (b) Blood Transfusion Service vehicle
 (c) Civil Defence vehicle
 (d) Forestry Commission fire fighting vehicle
 (e) Ministry of Defence Bomb Disposal vehicle

3. If no means of reversing is fitted to a motor vehicle, the unladen weight must not exceed:—

- (a) 8cwt
- (b) 6cwt
- (c) 4cwt
- (d) 5cwt
- (e) 7cwt

TELEPHONE message received at Ongar Police Station, from Fire Service:

"We are attending the premises of Mr. Herring, 'The Fisheries,' Hook End Road, Blackmore, to deal with a fish pan fire in the kitchen."

Further message received later, from Fire Service:

"On the way to the fish pan fire the fire engine collided with a stationary concrete post, not much damage done to engine and we were able to attend fire. According to our regulations we have to inform you of any slight accident we have and this then lets us off the HOOK."

Final chorus "Oklahoma," by the whole company.



Leading players (from left): Harry Smith, Sue Bragg, Stewart Giggens, Clara Smith, Gordon Potter, Norma Richardson, Ron Bearman and Ron Cook.

Oklahoma the best show yet

THE Assembly Hall at H.Q. was once again packed to capacity every evening during the week 25th-30th January, 1971, for the Music Society's staging of the world famous musical "Oklahoma". Every credit must be given to the organisers and planners for bringing this popular and familiar show to us once more with such freshness and vitality. It was obvious to all the audience that the whole cast were thoroughly enjoying themselves resulting in a relaxed and happy atmosphere throughout.

Cy Smith, the Musical Director and Chorus Master, once more excelled himself. His hard work was well rewarded by a most professional show. One of the outstanding features was the orchestra consisting of Bryan Cass—piano, Joseph Bird—electric piano, Victor Wade—organ, John Duncan—electric violin, and the ever faithful Ernest Everitt—timpani. These players produced a well balanced mellow sound which supported the cast with the right amount of volume at all times.

H.Q. MUSIC SOCIETY

The male lead, Curly, was played by Gordon Potter, who projected the glowing personality needed for the part and was well supported by the leading lady Clara Smith as "Laurey", who acted and danced well and with her pleasant voice made the strenuous role seem easy.

The other parts, too numerous to mention individually, were all well performed, each person entering into the spirit of their part, ably supported by the chorus.

The first act was gay and colourful, one of the highlights being the number "Pore Jud," sung with just the right amount of humour by Curly and Jud (the villain "Jud" was portrayed exceptionally well by Ronald Cook). The finale to Act I, the dream sequence, was cleverly managed. A chorus of Can Can girls gave a sparkling and lively performance. The scene was given an air of fantasy by dancing on a carpet of swirling cloud.

The second act built up to the final song "Oklahoma," which was the climax of the show, the entire cast singing for all they were worth, giving a moving performance. The Assembly Hall will never be the same again!

All credit must as ever be given to the back-room boys and girls the scenery, costumes and lighting were up to the standard set in previous productions.

Mention also must be made of the Society's consideration for their audience with ice cream, drinks and even cushions to sit on. Knowing the effect a couple of hours on hard chairs can have on one, this was bliss indeed.

Congratulations, Music Society, you have scored again! Long may you continue to brighten our dreary January evenings with your annual productions.

Pictures by Peter Reeve.



Grays Party Time

By Colin Davison.

On January 4, 50 children and 27 parents from the Grays Division, attended the Christmas Pantomime at the Cliffs Pavilion, Southend. The pantomime was Aladdin and to help them through it, the children were supplied with sweets, fruit and ice cream. Before returning home all were treated to tea at Garons of Southend.

On January 5, the Grays Div. Sports Club entertained 136 children and about 70 parents to the annual Christmas "Bun Fight" at the Civic Hall. Catering was left in the capable hands of Mesdames Miller, Rust, Norris and Hart.

Peter Pascoe and his puppets entertained the kids. This act is recommended



to any other division for children's parties and can be contacted through Insp. Miller.

Each child received a gift from a rather rotund Father Christmas cleverly disguised as Tilbury's own

P.c. Reg Ryan. Our thanks go to "Wacker" Hughes and his lady for choosing, packing and labelling all the presents (still moaning about his blisters).

As a result of the efforts by Insp. Miller, helped by

P.c.s Goddard, Brymer and Fuller, together with many others too numerous to mention, 136 happy kids were homeward bound at the conclusion of the party.

Picture by Thurrock Gazette.

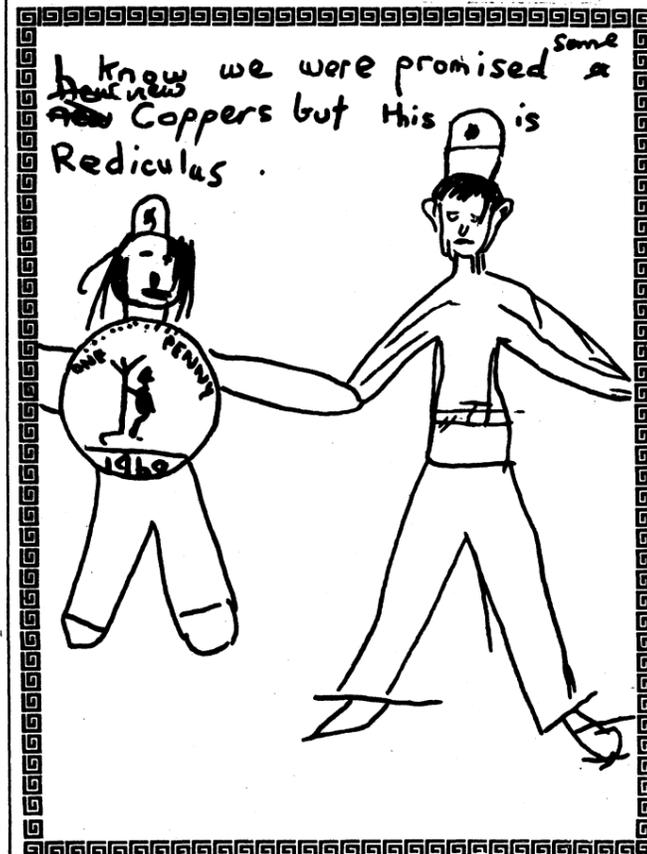
Law correspondents see the presses run

Last month sub-divisional representatives of "The Law" met at HQ to discuss the future of the paper. Later on a visit to the printers, Essex Chronicle Series Ltd., the reps. saw newspapers coming off the press. They are pictured below with S.Con. Jack Carrington, Deputy Works Manager.



One of the suggestions made was for "professional" cartoons, so we cast about and came up with the one below, by Andrew Thurgood, who is the eight-year-old son of Wally Thurgood, assistant editor.

And below that is a cartoon from Colchester which we commend to all as a warning of things to come in the not-too-distant future.



BUT HE'S THE ONLY ONE WE'VE GOT LEFT.

Brentwood Sports Club Annual Dance

TO BE held at Rotary Hoes, West Horndon, on Friday, 26th February, 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Dancing to Jack Sully and His Music, dress optional, licensed bar, buffet, tickets 25s.

Basildon Sports Club Ball

IN RESPONSE to the recent appeal, the Basildon Divisional Sports Club are organising a GRAND CHARITY BALL, to be held at the RUNNYMEDE HALL, BENFLEET, on Thursday, MARCH 11, 1971, 8 p.m.-1.30 a.m., in aid of the Police Orphans' Fund. Tickets 50s. each, obtainable through the Hon. Secretary of this Sports Club.

PORTRAIT

New J.B.B. Chairman



Chief Insp. John Sutton

AT THEIR first meeting for 1971, held on January 4, the Essex and Southend - on - Sea Joint Branch Board elected their new chairman, Chief Inspector John Sutton.

He began his career in the Police Force in 1958 and has spent most of his service in the southern part of the county, serving six years in the former Romford Division before moving to Grays. He was the first person to win the Bennett Trophy presented by Alderman Bennett for the Probationer of the Year 1959.

In 1965 he was promoted sergeant and became the Grays Crime Prevention Officer. He became a uniform inspector in 1967 and moved to Basildon where he served for about a year before moving to Headquarters Training Department. He was the In-

spectors' Federation representative at both Basildon and Headquarters. He was promoted Chief Inspector in the Training Department and is now in charge of the Force Juvenile Liaison Scheme and the Community Relations Department.

FIREARMS

He has made some extensive research into the question of police use of firearms and suitable

types of weapons for use in the service.

Before joining the police service, John served eight years in the Army which included tours of duty in the Parachute Regiment (that probably makes him at least one jump ahead of his contemporaries) and the Special Air Service Regiment on active service in Egypt and Malaya.

Now 37 years old, married with two children, he has throughout his career been an extremely keen and able sportsman, representing the force in athletics, swimming, shooting and cricket and the armed emergency team. Until recently he was a force to be reckoned with at the swimming gala, and was at one time Force record holder at javelin and shot, the latter he still holds.

The spare time previously spent on sport is now devoted to studying sociology and history, not forgetting his fellow creatures in the federated ranks.

JOINT FORCE TYPES
No 21

THE
TELEPHONIST



BUT, SIR, YOU
KNOW THAT WHENEVER
THE WIRES GET
IN A TANGLE I PULL 'EM ALL
OUT AND START AGAIN!

Oh Ducky!

EARLY one morning late last year, in a little used "gents" in Southend, a respectable member of the public was confronted by the sight of a constable bent over a wash basin, washing out eight pairs of ladies' nylon briefs and hanging these to dry on the pipes.

Any suggestions as to the reason for this laundry venture and the thoughts of the gentleman upon entering the convenience should not be addressed to the Editor.

In fact the garments — do nylon briefs qualify as garments? — had been snatched from a line and as they were all messed up the constable, like a good public servant, decided to wash them out before getting them identified.

The logic of the Irish

AS A result of receiving information respecting the theft and eventual murder of a Guinea Pig, by stabbing, an officer commenced enquiries.

He subsequently obtained sufficient details to locate the "murderer," a 10-year-old boy, whom he interviewed in the presence of his married sister.

During the evening the officer's father, a very large Irishman, attended the police office wishing to know the reason for his son being interviewed.

The officer informed him of the offence and the following conversation took place, the Irishman speaking in a broad accent:

Irishman: "I don't tink Mark did it."

Officer: "Why don't you think he did it?"

Irishman: "Well, tis like dis you see. I says to Mark, 'tell me Mark did you do tis ting?' and he says, 'Yes, dad, I did'. So I says to him, 'Now den, Mark, forget what you just said, I want you to tell me the trute. Did you do it or not?' and he says, 'No, dad, I didn't'. So being a Catholic and knowing he wouldn't lie to me I believed him the second time."

INTERNATIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION

Mr. McClure, of Maldon Police Station, I.P.A. Treasurer, points out that the subscription is 14/- or 70 new pence as from January 1, 1971 (not Decimal Day as we stated last month). This was agreed at National Executive Meeting at Guildford on April 23/24, 1970. He also wishes to remind all those who pay by bankers' order to have them amended.

Without doubt the Joint Branch Board have made a wise choice because at the annual conference at Llandudno in 1970 John Sutton made his mark with the delegates when he made a proposal relating to firearms and the training of policemen in the use of firearms. The proposal was well received and he was complimented on the research he had carried out and on his presentation of the proposition.

Father and son die in tragic crash

By Craig Bailey

HIS many friends and colleagues were shocked to hear of the tragic death of Detective Sergeant Bob "Jock" Langley and his son Christopher, as a result of a road accident.

Bob, who was 43 years old, and Christopher, 20 years, were fatally injured when their car was in collision with a van in Harlow, shortly before midnight on January 1. It was Bob's rest day and he had been at home all evening and drove to Harlow Railway Station to pick up Christopher. They were on their way home again when the accident occurred.

Sergeant Langley leaves a widow, Audrey, and three children, John 21, Wendy 16, and Ian 9. He joined the Force in 1949 and was stationed at Chelmsford until 1952. Following five years at Dunmow he was posted to Harwich upon his transfer to the C.I.D. In 1959 he moved to Rainham and in 1964 he was promoted to Uniform Sergeant and moved to Harlow. He was soon out of uniform again, however, the same year the Regional Crime Squads were formed and Sergeant Langley was posted to the Squad at Barking-side. He remained with the Squad until he returned to duty at Harlow, where he was serving at the time of his death.

"Jock" as he was affectionately known, was one



able and extremely popular officers, which are the backbone of the Force. He was commended seven times during his lifetime, a further commendation was announced on Force Order shortly after his death. Whilst at Rainham he disarmed a time bomb which had been placed beneath a caravan, at considerable risk to himself, an act which was typical of Jock.

Bob Langley was an ever-popular colleague who was always present at the many social occasions where he will be greatly missed. His great love was bowls and in this sport he excelled. He won many competitions and championships and the evidence of this is proudly

only did he play for the Police teams but he was a member of the Harlow Bowling Club. He was also an extremely active member of the International Police Association and he took part in the entertainment of foreign members visiting Harlow. Jock will always be regarded with the highest esteem and I know his death will leave a gap which it will be impossible to fill.

Christopher was a popular and promising lad. He was Head Boy at one of the largest schools in Harlow and gained his 'A' levels in geography and economics. At the time of his death he was on holiday from Bingley Teachers Training College, where he

for which he was ideally suited. He was entirely selfless and devoted his time to service to others. He assisted slow-learners at school and was very active in the Harlow Handicapped Club. He was interested in drama and also played cricket. I am certain he, too, will be greatly missed in Harlow.

There was an indication of the popularity and respect which Bob and his son commanded at the funeral service which was held at Harlow Crematorium, on Thursday, January 7. Father and son were laid to rest together. Three hundred people attended the funeral including colleagues who had served with Bob many

from local firms and two Police Officers from Rotterdam, Holland, flew over for the funeral, which was attended by the Chief Constable and Mr. C. Waller, Assistant Chief Constable. There were 80 floral tributes.

As a colleague and a person who knew Bob and Christopher well, I find it impossible to express the sense of loss which we all feel. Our thoughts go out to Audrey and her family at their great loss, but I am sure they must be comforted to some extent by the fact that they can be so very proud of the ones they have lost. We offer them all our deepest sympathy and we shall all remember Bob and Christopher with profound

6 Paddock Mead
Harlow
13.1.71

Dear Sir,

After the recent tragedy which took two loved ones from us, my family and I received numerous letters of sympathy but it would be impossible for me to answer them all. I would appreciate space in your paper to say thank you for the letters and also how touched we were to see so many of Bob's colleagues who came from far and wide to pay tribute at the funeral. I would also like to say thank you for all the floral tributes and the many offers of help from the policemen and their wives.

Yours faithfully,

This is your Nick . . .



We chose this view of the works as being typical of the sub-division. One of several cement factories belching smoke as usual.

THIS new feature is embarked upon to bring faces and places to the notice of colleagues serving in other parts of the county. The choice of South Ockendon came about partly through availability and partly because in the Law office we know there is nowhere quite like it.

Entitled, "This is Your Nick"—you may feel it should be, "Is This My Nick?" though we promise not to romanticise too much—the object is to show the police at work, where they work, and to say something about the locality. Sooner or later we shall get around to everyone.

South Ockendon sub-division is border country all right with the



"Don't let them get away with it," admonishes the notice—and we didn't though they weren't keen on stepping outside. Chief Inspector Geoffrey Crux (for the information of southerners pronounced Crooks) with Det. Sgt. Don Knights (for northerners, pronounced Nites).

SAID THE MAN FROM C.I.D.

By P.c. Mick Scott

Three men in a bar stood talking,
"A funny thing happened to me,
I'll tell you all about it."
Said the man from the C.I.D.

Old Smithy was a wily bird,
A first-class thief was he.
"Don't worry lads, we'll catch him."
Said the man from the C.I.D.

But Smithy was a wily bird,
He'd run for many a mile,
He saw the fuzz had laid a trap
And gave a knowing smile.
They'll catch me not in yonder trap
I know a thing or two
I'll have those coppers chasing shadows
By the time I'm through.

The C.I.D. were waiting
And wait they did in vain.
For when they checked the bank next day
They found it robbed again.
"The bank's been robbed," the Super choked,
"How was it done pray tell."
"I do not know," the D.S. moaned
"But I'll see that Smith in hell."

Old Smithy smiled as morning light
Broke through his window coldly.
A daring thief I was last night.
I did that job most boldly.
"The fuzz are fools, they'll not catch me,"
He boasted to his mate,
"I'll do another job tonight,
They'll have that upon their plate."

Now there's a well known saying
That pride a fall precedes.
And Smithy jumped with two big feet
And landed on his knees.

That night he worked by light of moon
Upon a factory door.
A patrolling policeman seeing this
Decided to explore.
Smithy heard the copper
By then it was too late.
He ran across the muddy field
And tried to climb the gate.

The Policeman was a youngster
Faster than Smith he ran.
Old Smithy ducked and tried to hide
But the copper got his man.

Back at the nick the C.I.D.
Had taken Smith his tea.
"Now tell us all about it."
Said the man from the C.I.D.
Old Smithy was a wily bird.
"Honest Guv, it wasn't me.
I'm going straight, straight up I am
He told the C.I.D.

"You must think I'm stupid
But I know you can't fool me.
You did the bank, you little runt."
Said the man from the C.I.D.

Into court they took Old Smithy.
He gave a guilty plea.
"I'll tell you now he got five years."
Said the man from C.I.D.

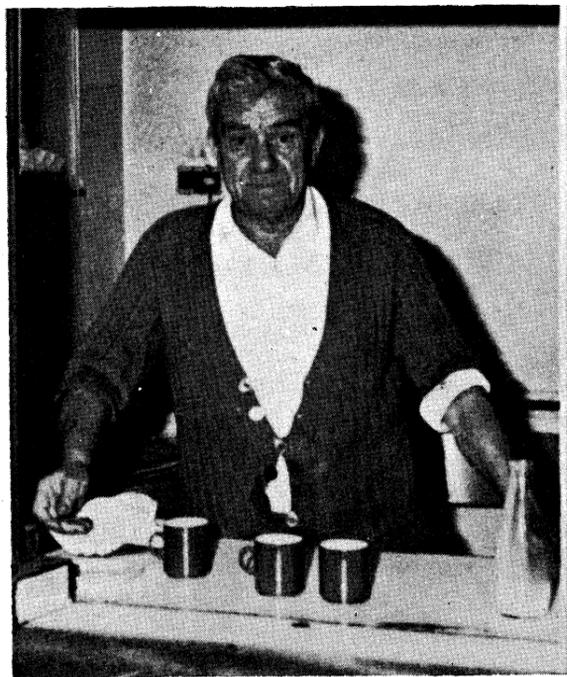
"Now, mind you, I'm not boasting,
But the credit's due to me.
I solved that case so very well."



DOWN CORNER



A public's eye view of office man Fred Ayres, formerly of Stansted, who declares "I've 14 sessions of nights to go." He goes out on age then.



Bert Brudenell makes a fair copper—we had timed our arrival well.

M.P.D. starting near the Lennard Arms on the A13 and Kent just across the river, all the nearer now because of the Dartford Tunnel.

Here and there agriculture intrudes upon an otherwise industrial and dormitory area. The sluggish Mardyke flows through the "sub" to spill into the Thames at Purfleet. Here and there brown cows graze in the meadows. And in Ockendon village by the green is a picturesque, and rare in Essex, round towered church, with the ancient Royal Oak public house close by. But this is not really typical of the South Ockendon Sub.

Vast square cut holes each side of the A13 London to Southend road, not to mention clouds of smoke overhead, are signs of this area's greater claim to fame—cement.

The dust is not as bad as it used to be but on hot, dry days it still blows about in clouds as you drive down the Tunnel Approach.

Industry

Unbroken industrial premises all along the Thames waterfront makes this area one of the most heavily developed in the country. Not just cement but cardboard by the mile and margarine by

the ton are produced. Ford motor components by the million are stored and every conceivable product from crude oil to coat hangers comes ashore, shipped from all over the world. It's a busy spot, but incongruous, too, with the ancient St. Clement's church—the oldest standing by the Thames it is said—nestling amid monstrous factories on what was once West Thurrock marshes.

"Ockendon Borough" is what they call it in the Grays Division, which might or might not be a reference to the Guv'nor, Geoffrey Crux, a transferee from the North.

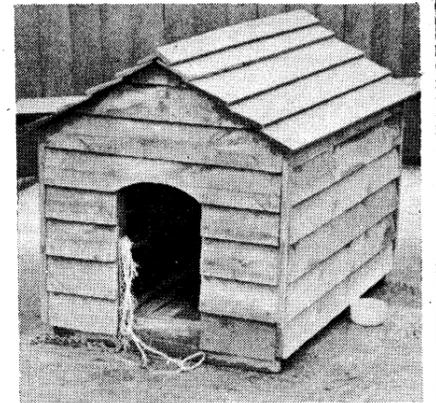
Decorations

When we arrived the painters were in. (There you are, Stations are painted occasionally.) But the chaos was only superficial which is another way of saying much the same as usual.

As we left a piece of paper came into our possession, headed "Rumour." It went on:

"The only way to succeed in the Ockendon Borough is to have a caravan towing bracket fitted to your car and to attend all the rallies in the back yard."

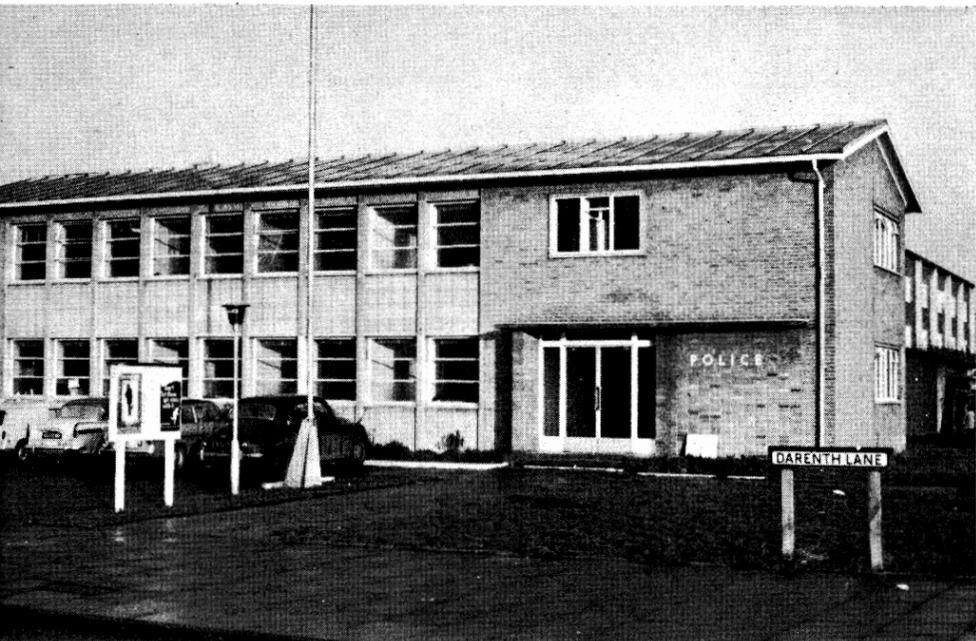
And just what that means only Ockendon Borough men can know!



We had heard that accommodation was tight but this was not the case.

S

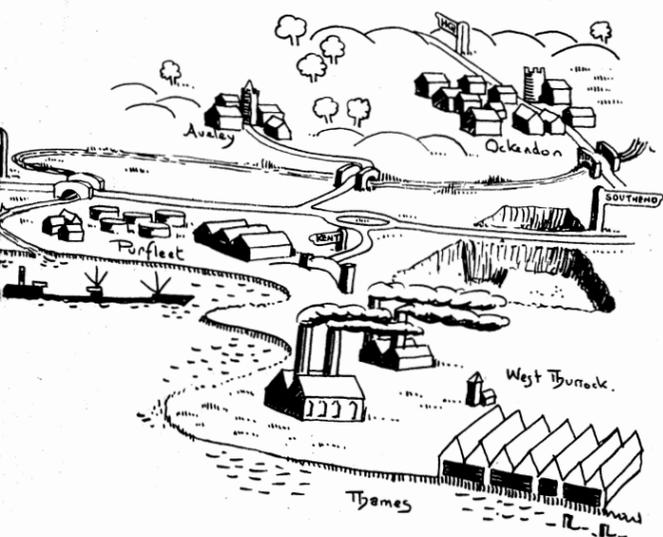
CID moving seen trying inventory. Don K



Looking very smart and clean in the winter sunshine, South Ockendon Police Station.



Typists Lyn Knowles, left and Julie Allen are so enthusiastic about the job they come back after hours as Specials.



Don't think there are always this number of men in the parade room, they were "changing over" whatever that means (no letters please). From the left: Jim Stranger, Jock Boyle, Pete Ashton, Des McGarr and Keith Bartlett.

South Ockendon

Pictures by Peter Reeve



Back after the painters, are to make sense of the from the left Mick Higgins, Ainsley and Mike Ainsley.

Painting contractors Fred Merrison (in the hat) and son Tony (pointing) discuss progress of work with some of their men. Fred and Son are regular guests at the Police Ball.



Off-beat Essex

No, not a view of Ockendon but the first of our new series, off-beat Essex, being photos or sketches of out of the way spots in the county. This one, pictured by Peter Reeve is of the Chelmer and Blackwater Canal at Sandford Mill.



EDIVIEWS

AT LAST in issue number 23 audience participation in The Law has grown to sufficient proportions to almost fill this page with letters.

Perhaps some have been the result of our own shortcomings or have been provoked by something printed in a previous issue but whatever the reason the editorial staff are delighted to receive comment, even from those who think our views puerile, for by no other means can we know if the paper is read.

But of course what we enjoy most is to get the odd note agreeing with our opinions. We have human frailties, too.

Time-and-a-half

At this stage in police pay negotiations, with the award five months overdue, the news that traffic wardens have won their fight for time-and-a-half for weekend working will only add insult to injury for policemen who labour under time-off-in-lieu and detectives who work overtime hours at a lower rate pay than normal time.



Another new welfare scheme

Dear Sir,
In the January issue of The Law a leading article appeared dealing with the block Welfare Deductions. This article is, in my opinion, in very bad taste and should never have been allowed to appear in the paper, for I feel that it will undo a great deal of the work that has been done by some officers on behalf of the welfare funds.

I have contributed willingly to the various charities throughout my service, and have never at any time refused to contribute when asked to do so. I will not, however, associate myself with the present scheme in the way it has been outlined.

The author of the article states that the response "reflects badly on the officers and those in position of authority who should be pushing the scheme." Since when has the right of an individual to give or not to give reflected badly upon him, and since when has a person in authority the right to dictate or order an officer under his command to donate or not as he wishes? He may by logical explanation endeavour to change that officer's opinion but that is as far as he may go. In this division a senior officer took the trouble and patience to interview each officer individually and follow this up with a letter, so that the charities would not suffer.

The "excuse" that I don't want any group or any individual to decide for me for what purpose the money I donate shall

Insurance as examples is puerile. These are sums of money deducted by law and are not voluntary contributions. I am prepared to contribute 6s. or 30np per month, stopped at source providing I, and I alone, decide to what charity or charities it shall be given. I fully appreciate that to have a fixed sum deducted will undoubtedly assist the finance department and the Treasurer's Department. I can however see no difficulties arising if the Treasurer's Department paid to the common fund at Police Headquarters the sum total of the money collected on behalf of the police charities and this then be re-allocated in accordance with the officer's individual requirements by the finance department. To facilitate ease of distribution I would suggest that the 30np be divided into units of 5np and that a list be formed consisting of the following: The Police Dependents' Trust, Gurney Fund, Seaside Home, Benevolent Fund and Police Widows' Fund, and that the donor be allowed to allocate the units to any or all as he wishes, providing the amount of the total donations is 30np.

C. G. FRANCIS
P.Sgt. 12

While on the subject of rights, how can you, the champion of the rights of the individual, suggest censorship of the Press, as you do in your first paragraph. Your last paragraph outlines an excellent scheme. May we take it that you will donate your time to organising it?—Ed.

Heart warming

To the Editor,

"Had a complaint against you? Feeling very disgruntled? Then consider the text of the following letter received at Brentwood Police Station.

Dear Superintendent,

Thank you for directing the traffic and staying up at night to keep an eye open for suspicious people. Thank you for not going on strike. From 3rd year juniors.

(Signed) Susan Crowley
Susanna Day
Wendy McPherson
Martyn Pope
Nigel Harness
Mark Francis
Andrew Deeming

Covering letter from the Assistant Junior Church Leader at Brentwood Congregational Church stated "Some of the children in our Junior Church have been thinking of all the people who help them in life and who they can help. The enclosed letter is a completely unaided and sincere effort of seven of our boys and girls aged about 10, although there were hints on how to spell suspicious."

Hope you feel better now. Does kind of make police work seem worth-while doesn't it?

The children concerned were invited to visit Brentwood Police Station after a tour of the premises, they were toasted in 'pop'.

T. V. DAVIS
Collator, Brentwood.

Information lacking

Dear Sir,

I would refer you to the front page story headed "Have you joined new Welfare Scheme yet?" which appears in your January '71 edition of "The Law".

Do you seriously believe that they have any option when they pay their taxes, rates, or National Health contributions?

Why should not individuals have an option in saying where their money should go when they contribute to something voluntarily?

Before I filled in the form that permitted the reductions from my pay I made some enquiries of the Police Federation secretary. This inquiry could easily have been saved had a circular been prepared answering such simple questions as: will widows, apart from being paid more quickly, be better off financially by having this group scheme than by having voluntary individual collections?

Yours faithfully,
ROGER PARKER
Constable 567

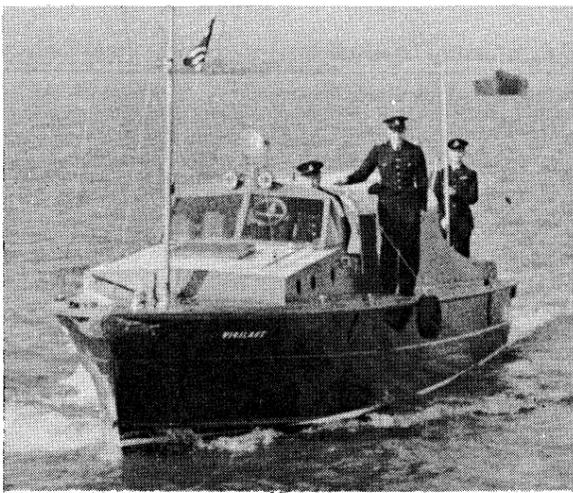
The meaning of your second sentence escapes us but thanks for writing. We agree on one thing — the more information the better. — Ed.

Thankyou letter

Dear Sir,

Would you be kind enough

First launch



Dear Editor,

I refer to your issue of "The Law" for December, 1970, illustrating the new river craft. Your reference to the Vigilant II as illustrated on your centre pages as the first river patrol craft in the county is incorrect. I am a founder-member of the Essex River Patrol Service which first commissioned on the 4th July, 1949, on the Vigilant. The other members of the crew were Sgt Cranfield from Colchester, he and I went together from the borough, Pc Cant later sergeant, now retired, Sgt Lemon now stationed at Wickford, Pc Howard later sergeant, now retired, and myself about to retire.

Yours sincerely,
PHIL CHINA

We stand corrected. The picture shows the first launch. When we read the date there was a moment when we wondered where the sails could be but there are the crew named by Phil China, himself seen in the stern sheets with Sgt. Cranfield at the helm and Sgt. Lemon on deck.—Ed.

Regarding Pc. 571 (Laindon Police) and his colleague (they were on duty traffic car at the Halfway House Public-house car park) on the night of January 2, 8.30 p.m.

I had driven through thick fog, with my mother-in-law in the car, and it just stopped on the roundabout. The two policemen came to my rescue. My fan belt had come off and was not charging my battery, consequently the car stopped, and the two police constables were kind enough to fix it for me.

So if you could just give them a little mention.

The funny part about this whole thing was I didn't tell them I was a Traffic Warden. I wonder what their re-action would have been? Dropped tools?

Yours sincerely,
P. EDWARDS (Mrs.)

Flashback

Dear Sir,

The photographs of Colchester Borough Police in the last issue of The Law are very interesting to me as when I joined the Force in 1925 many of the men shown therein were still serving.

I think the inspection photo and the physical jerks photo were taken before 1912, possibly 1911, before Captain Stockwell (as he was then) took over, as it looks as if the officer in charge of the parade could be the former Chief Constable who appears to be in conversation with H.M. Inspector of Constabulary. The physical jerks would have probably been laid on following the inspection in order to impress H.M. Inspector (I remember one year we laid on a swimming display, featuring life-saving for the same reason).

The funeral, I think, took place some years later, probably 1919 or 1920 because two of the mounted men and the Chief Constable are wearing decorations which would have been unusual prior to 1914.

However, Mr. W. Drane, of Colchester, who is secretary of the Colchester branch of N.A.R.P.O., is I think shown in the physical jerks photo and could I am sure identify nearly all the people concerned.

The photos bring back a flood of memories — of police constables who showed me round the various town beats and taught me more about the right way to deal with the public than all the instruction books I have ever read.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. B. CLARK

Time Saver

Dear Sir,

Owing to the ever-increasing difficulties these days in obtaining officers to escort prisoners to H.M. prisons I venture to put forward a scheme which would obviate the necessity of officers doing these duties.

the pedestal the British police has had for many years and join the other police forces of the world.

The human being, like an animal, prefers to be properly trained and suitably rewarded for his efforts rather than to be allowed to roam free. There can always be improvements in conditions to make the policeman's lot a happier one but I think discipline is the basis from which to start.

G. W. DARBY
P.c. 499

Ongar.
11.1.71

Jobs

SIR, — In last month's edition of "The Law," a letter written by Pc Neville of Hadleigh entitled "Do jobs cause wastage," was published. We wholeheartedly concur with the points made by Pc Neville.

The youth of today appears to have a total disregard of the British Legal System and of the Police in particular. It is time that steps were taken in an effort to improve the way in which such offenders are dealt with and an effective punishment developed. We all feel that Police time can be put to better uses.

Signed below by 22 names.

Old Boys

Dear Sir,

You will be aware that the science of Comprehensive Education is advancing steadily and the days of the true Grammar Schools are numbered.

With this in mind I am interested in compiling a list of members of the Force who are ex-pupils of Palmers Endowed School for Boys at Grays.

Would Old Palmerians who are members of the Force please let me have their names.

Yours faithfully,
ROY E. BRACEY
(Inspector)

Lovely onions, but . . .

DEAR EDITOR,

I write in answer to the article by D. A. Mona in the December issue. I suppose he is right in inferring that we should be thankful for what we are given (the fact that the cost of rent is taken into account when deciding our wages not being counted) I feel that I should be more grateful than most really, I reside in the only County-owned house in the village.

It is the only house not on the main sewage—in the village.

It is the only house with sewage effluent flowing around the cesspit and two inspection covers regularly each month—in the village.

In December 1969 it was decided by a local builder in conjunction with the Divisional Building Surveyors dept. that this sewage should be connected to the mains, which at present runs to the house next door, which is adjacent to the County-owned house. With D. A. Mona's attitude it is no wonder I have heard nothing more about this work being carried out. I realise I shouldn't complain as this has only been going on for the two years I have resided in the house and looking at it from an admin point of view, I do grow some good onions. Unfortunately, my wife has had enough of large onions and no play area for the children and has now got the stage where she couldn't care less if I find another job, I only hope the next resident gets a better deal from U know who.

C. GREEN, P.c. 1376,
Police House,
High Ongar.

Noddy

DEAR SIR,

The manufacturers of the Velocette lightweight motor cycle having ceased production of this machine, I understand that the County has purchased alternative machines in the form of B.S.A. 250 c.c. motor cycles.

I cannot understand why this heaven-sent opportunity to finally put the "noddy" cycle to sleep has been missed. Their operational value in today's traffic and work conditions is virtually nil.

One is unable to carry any equipment on these machines

Cadet Gazette

Cadet Corps activities have had that post Christmas air this past month as the new term has got under way. With mock exams looming up the school has become quieter in the evenings.

A weekend camp at Thetford seemed to signal the opening of the heavens but the second year now have the knack of keeping reasonably dry.

Netball

In the only match of the month the girls fell apart against Kent Cadets and could only score 10 goals in three quarters. Kent could only score 12. It must have been a case of after-the-holiday out-of-touch, but Peg Barrett, the usual shooter, was injured which no doubt unsettled the team.

Football

The return match against Herts Cadets, who were beaten 6-1 at Springfield, took place at Hatfield on January 13. It was quite a battle and so many injuries resulted that no matches have been played since. However, these were due to the pitch—sharp flints under soft mud—the game itself being hard but clean.

Cadets played well to win 5-2 through goals by J. Hastings (2), R. Madden (2) and N. Hirst.

Table Tennis

League matches were resumed in January with a 9-1 win over Danbury Youth Club. J. Weatherley and E. Cotter scored maximums and G. Blois won 2-1.

to them, either by phone calls to one's office or the information room. On arrival, the assistance of a properly equipped vehicle unfortunately has to be sought and thus two vehicles, one of which probably contains two policemen, are tied up at the scene of an accident, which would quite easily have been dealt with by one policeman had he been provided with the tools necessary to do the job properly. During inclement weather the officer (who is not issued with proper motor cycling gear like traffic motor cyclists) arrives at the scene too cold to hold a pencil properly to record the details necessary. Rural beats do not have enquiry sections and execute their own warrants. On having arrested someone the prisoner would find it quite uncomfortable being transported to the police station astride a Cossir radio set, not to mention the risk of serious injury from the radio aerial. Once again a mobile perhaps containing two officers is tied up on what is a one-man job. The least bit of frost or ice creates additional hazards and although a four-wheel vehicle may get into difficulties in this types of weather you cannot fall off it.

One often hears that a policeman in a motor car or van has less contact with the public than a man on the beat, this is not strictly true, as it seems to me that the contact an officer has with members of the public depends on the individual officer, if he really wants contacts with the public he will have very little difficulty and will manage very satisfactorily from a motor car or van. Those officers who do not really want to talk to members of the public will not do it properly, no matter whether they are walking or in a vehicle.

The only advantage of a noddy bike that I can see is that in traffic it can get through places where a motor car or van would be held up. However, since these motor cycles seem to be issued mainly to rural beats and not towns where "Panda cars" are used this advantage does not apply in this force.

It would be interesting if we could be informed of the total cost per mile including purchase and resale price, maintenance, and cost of repairs, including time spent off the road being repaired, of both mini vans and noddy bikes. I am sure that the small difference in cost would be far outweighed by the increased efficiency, work load and extra uses to which a mini van could be put.

CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE

Down wins championship

THE year began well with a fine race at Chelmsford for the Regional Championship when the largest field ever, 96 runners, took on four laps over frost-hardened meadows.

From the start Rob Randall, of Thames Valley, took charge, but Andy Down, on his home course, was never more than 30 yards behind, and when Randall suddenly cracked with one lap to go Down raced into a long lead to win by 46 seconds.

After this great start we had to wait until 15th for Mick Barlow to come in, suffering from a cold.

After another longish gap, Chris Whiting, Larry Britt, Tim Jeffs and Richard Madden came in close together to complete championship and league scores all at once. Chris Whiting had a good run, though one felt that some of his colleagues had a (Christmas pud) weight handicap.

Team scores

Under the two opposing systems the Force landed fourth place in both championship and league. In the latter event good packing by non-scorers lowered the scores of other teams very effectively.

Championship result

Essex placings: 1. A. Down, 34min. 01sec.; 15. M. Barlow, 39.30; 27. C. Whiting, 41.35; 30. L. Britt, 41.48; 33. T. Jeffs, 42.08; 34. R. Madden, 42.13; 35. P. Norman; 39. R. Hammond; 42. M. Fairweather; 46. J. Shanahan; 47. D. Grimshaw; 48. G. Egerton; 49. T. Cole; 52. C. Govus; 53. B. Jones; 62. N. Donkin; 63. G. Blois; 69. M. Grout; 70. J. Weeks; 71. M. Eldred; 73. J. Schofield; 74. M. Puttick; 81. A. Parsons. (96 finished).

Teams: (4 to score) 1. Sussex, 28; 2. City of London, 40; 3. Herts, 66; 4. Essex/Southend 'A', 79; 5. Thames Valley, 104; 6. Kent, 131; 7. Essex/Southend 'B', 135; 8. Beds/Luton, 144; 9. Thames Valley Cadets 'A', 185; 10. Hants, 294; 11. Thames Valley Cadets 'B', 305; 12. Thames Valley Cadets 'C', 339.

League team scores: (scoring 6, backscoring) 1. Sussex, 315; 2. City of London, 258; 3. Herts, 253; 4. Essex/Southend, 226; 5. Thames Valley, 206; 6. Kent, 113; 7. Beds/Luton, 109; 8. Hants, 11.

Top league places overall: 1. Sussex, 1211; 2. Herts, 1003; 3. City of London, 962; 4. Essex/Southend, 875; 5. Kent, 723.

Force title races

THE Force and Cadet cross-country championship took place on January 20, with races for men and women.

A field of 76 set off on two muddy laps totalling five miles and in the absence of Andy Down it soon fell to Mick Barlow to take the lead followed by Larry Britt. These two duly processed to the line in that order.

Behind, a three-cornered fight for third place developed between Chris Whiting, Ron Hammond and Richie Madden, who were the first to fall behind. It was not until the last quarter-mile that Whiting got away for a deserved third place in the Cadet race.

Mervyn Fairweather seemed well set to take the Force title as he was well clear at half-way but Mike Blackwell, leading Colchester in their first entry into this race for several years, came strongly over the second lap to almost snatch the lead.

Mike was well backed up by John Weekes in 14th place and good packing by Bock, Tomkins, Franklyn and Spurgeon all together not too far back gave Colchester a deserved win.

Walking

Juniors well to the front

THE highlight of the past month was without doubt the powerful performance by Ron Hammond in Essex Beagles' 3 3/4 miles junior race at Chigwell on January 16. Walking as smoothly as ever against opposition up to three years older than himself and from as far away as Lancashire, Ron grabbed 7th place in a desperate finishing sprint against two junior internationals.

Not to be outdone Mike Eldred slashed two minutes from his previous best to take fourth place in the youth age group and 18th overall. Brian Jones completed the scoring in 27th position.

This was enough to secure third place medals, the second time this winter the team has taken awards in an open junior race. They are the best junior team in Essex—so they say—it is up to the opposition to show otherwise.

In 1970 the Walking Section launched out into junior competition and right at the start of 1971 extended their activities into women's events when two girls travelled to Chigwell Row to get their first taste of women's athletics outside the Force.

GOOD START

Susan Moss, oddly for a police cadet the smallest girl in the race, showed that she is not to be outshone by her male colleagues walking well to take sixth place against opposition relatively as strong as the boys faced. Elizabeth Allman, though slower, enjoyed the race and ladies' events.

The biggest team, Basildon, finished too far back to win but their score was good enough for second place. Clacton took third position.

The cadet team race confirmed last term's superiority of Crouch with last year's winners, Blackwater, placed last.

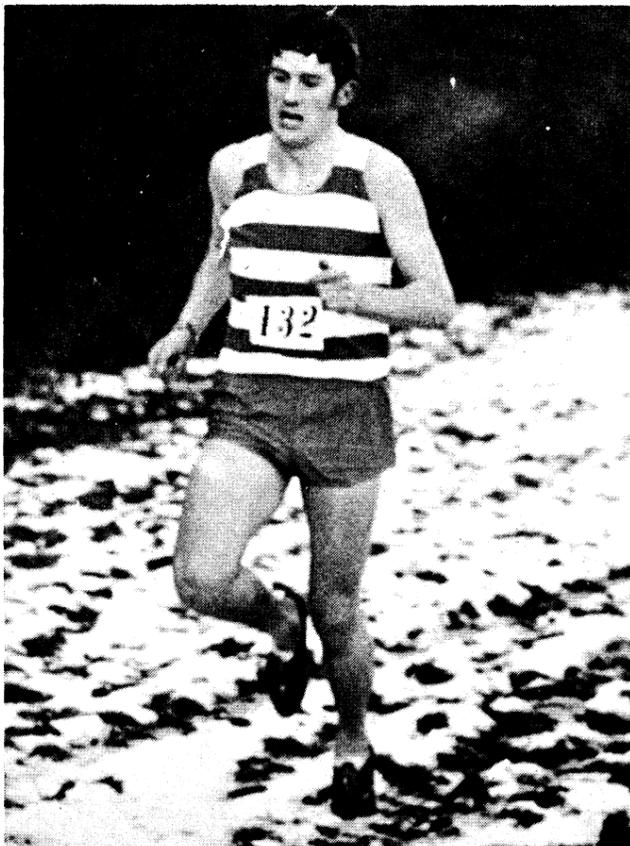
The girls, setting off two minutes behind the men, caught the slower runners by half-way round. At this stage Linda Grimwade was fairly close to leader Susan Moss but over the last mile the lead lengthened to 1 1/2 minutes with Susan throwing off her mud-plastered shoes to finish strongly as did Peg Barrett in third place. Crouch house also won this race.

RESULTS

Cadet championship

- 1. M. Barlow 33m. 33s
2. L. Britt 34m. 41s
3. C. Whiting 34m. 58s

- 4. R. Hammond, 35.03; 5. Madden, 35.25; 6. Jeffs, 35.45; 7. Parsons, 35.58; 8. Grimshaw, 35.59; 9. Norman, 36.37; 10. Weatherley, 36.42; 11. Jones, 36.51; 12. Weeks, 37.20; 13. Shanahan, 37.30; 14. Cole, 37.31; 15. Grout, 38.13; 16. Schofield, 38.26; 17. Kittle, 38.45; 18. Hurley, 40.08; 19. Barnes, 40.18; 20. Govus, 40.50; 21. Cotter, 40.55; 22. March, 41.03; 23. T. Webb, 41.22; 24. Mildin-



Approaching the line through snow and fog to win the Essex Junior Championship on January 2, Andy Down, stationed at Leigh. Five days later he won the S.E. Police Championship at H.Q.

TENNIS

DURHAM Constabulary Tennis Team are playing Essex & Southend-on-Sea Police at Southend on June 24, 1971, in their tour of the South-East, other matches have been arranged against Norfolk, Metropolitan Police and Sussex.

Any officers interested in tennis and wishing to be considered for the Force Team are to contact Pc Westrop at Colchester Police Station.

are likely to become part of all our home fixtures in future.

On January 9 juniors combined with seniors to take part in the premier "Open Seven" of the year, that promoted by Met. Police. On the measured course Ron Hammond duly secured his expected 7-miles-in-the-hour badge, a fine achievement before his 18th birthday, and Mike Eldred showed that he will not be too long in arriving at this standard. The rest of the team, after missing two Saturdays, were a little below form but took 15th team place in a field of 186, the biggest of the year.

RESULTS

Met Police 7 miles: 9.1.71
53rd, R. Hammond, 58m. 47s.; 73rd, J. Hedgethorpe, 60m. 52s.; 93rd, M. Eldred, 63m. 02s.; 103rd, K. Mann, 63m. 41s.; 124th, J. Shanahan, 66m. 38s.; 159th, J. Hastings, 70m. 46s.; 160th, D. Hawkins, 70m. 47s.; 186 started.

Essex Beagles 3 3/4 miles: 16.1.71
7th, R. Hammond, 28m. 58s.; 18th, M. Eldred, 32m. 09s.; 27th, B. Jones, 33m. 35s.; 35th, D. Hawkins and T. Mildinhal, 36m. 02s.; 37 finished.

Women's 1 1/2 miles: 16.1.71
6th, S. Moss, 18m. 50s.; 10th, E. Allman, 20m. 31s.; 11 finished.

hall, 42.11; 25. Hawkins, 43.14; 26. Fletcher, 43.37; 27. McGettigan, 44.11; 28. Puttick, 44.11; 29. Fielding, 44.33; 30. Payne, 44.49; 31. Halsey, 45.01; 32. Weavers, 46.29; 33. Buller, 46.38; 34. Taylor, 46.41; 35. Crowne, 46.44; 36. Debbage, 47.00; 37. Sitch, 47.37; 38. Bohannan, 47.42; 39. Jaggs, 47.42; 40. Bruce, 47.54; 41. Reeves, 48.46; 42. D. Reeve, 49.17; 43. Newson, 50.27; 44. S. Webb, 51.13; 45. Bailey, 51.13; 46. Bradshaw, 52.48; 47. Foster, 54.19; 48. J. Hammond, 54.22; 49. Hicks, 54.36; 50. P. Reeve, 55.19; 51. Diani, 55.19; 52. Street, 57.25; 53. Pipe, 57.26.

Teams: Crouch 412, Chelmer 295; Colne, 280; Blackwater, 255.

Force Championship

- 1. M. Fairweather, Clacton 35m. 59s.
2. M. Blackwell, Colchester 36m. 01s.
3. J. Weeks, Colchester 37m. 20s.

- 4. Trott (Bas.), 37.39; 5. O'Reilly (Clac.), 39.19; 6. Bock (Col.), 39.25; 7. Tomkins (Col.), 39.34; 8. Franklyn (Col.), 40.04; 9. Lawrence (Bas.), 40.22; 10. Spurgeon (Col.), 40.31; 11. March (Grays), 41.03; 12. Crosby (Chelm.), 41.20; 13. Fordham (Bas.), 42.55; 14. Furnival (Clac.), 43.12; 15. Lee (S.W.), 43.17; 16. Mann (Bas.), 44.05; 17. Miller (Chelm.), 44.18; 18. Aitchison (Bas.), 44.34; 19. Theobald (Clac.), 44.34; 20. Payne (Bas.), 44.49; 21. Holloway (Bas.), 45.24; 22. Chaplin (Chelm.), 46.28; 23. Crowne (HQ), 46.44; 24. Reeves (HQ), 48.46; 25. Travers (Bas.), 53.46; 26. Goldsmith (Bas.), 53.55; 27. Hicks (Chelm.), 54.36; 28.

SHOOTING

THE two Force teams firing in the P.A.A. National League have made an average start to the season with three matches won and three lost.

So far only John Stenson has scored a "ton" though R. Wolton when close with a 99.

As a result of the matches shot the teams stand fourth in Division 3 and sixth in Division 6.

Scores

Force 'A' 572; Lancs 'B' 565. J. Stenson 100, R. Wolton 98, A. Gowers 94, P. Starling 94, J. Cottee 94, R. Sanderson 92, C. Snow 89, G. Breeding 89.

Force 'A' 574; W. Yorks 570. J. Stenson 93, R. Wolton 95, A. Gowers 96, P. Starling 95, J. Cottee 97, R. Sanderson 98, C. Snow 89, G. Breeding 91.

Hants 580; Force 'A' 566. J. Stenson 97, R. Wolton 93, A. Gowers 94, P. Starling 93, R. Sanderson 97, G. Breeding 92.

Man/Salford 575; Force 'A' 573. J. Stenson 98, R. Wolton 99, A. Gowers 95, J. Cottee 93, R. Sanderson 93, G. Breeding 95, C. Snow 93.

Force 'B' 555; West Mid 'B' 552. J. Piggitt 92, K. Howard 91, L. Carter 91, K. Light 95, J. Smith 92, J. Watts 94, J. Green 90.

York/N.E. 'B' 563; Force 'B' 538. K. Howard 94, K. Light 93, J. Green 93, J. Smith 82, J. Watts 87, M. Brunning 89.

CRICKET

THE cricket section ballot has elected for next season: captain, Barry Tarbun, H.Q.; vice-captain, Fred Nicholls, Messrs. Culham, Johnson, and Stuart.

Matches every weekend and some midweek games ensure a full season — weather permitting.

Anyone interested in playing for the Force contact any of those named.

Diani (SE), 55.19; 29. Street (Col.), 57.25; 30. Adams (Bas.), 52.26.

Teams: Colchester 152, Basildon 128, Clacton 85, Chelmsford 46, Grays 20, Southend Western 16, HQ 15, Southend Eastern 3.

WOMEN

- 1. S. Moss 24m. 17s.
2. L. Grimwade 25m. 46s.
3. M. Barrett 26m. 45s.

- 4. Wilson, 29.22; 5. Trollope, 29.34; 6. Allman, 31.35; 7. Halley, 31.35; 8. Ranson, 32.17; 9. Webster, 32.30; 10. Tyes, 32.21; 11. Cole, 32.32; 12. Overton, 34.21; 13. Hickman, 35.26; 14. Cornish, 35.35; 15. Lambourn, 35.35; 16. Lewis, 37.40; 17. Ayres, 37.40; 18. Harley, 37.40; 19. Hopkins, 38.40; 20. Sparrow, 39.04.

Teams: Crouch 56, Chelmer 54, Blackwater 53, Colne 31.

SOCCER

Another cup run ends

By Sideliner.

ON JANUARY 2, the Force entertained Old Chelmsfordians in an Olympian League match at the Sports Ground and this affair turned out to be quite something! The snow-covered pitch had been inspected by the referee who declared it fit—thanks to groundsman Wally. Kick-off was 3 p.m. but O.C.s. refused to play, saying the pitch was not fit. The referee ordered the game to start and kick-off was delayed for 20 minutes. After only five minutes Rhymes opened the scoring for the Police and the team played well. O.C.s., still moaning, equalised and then, 20 minutes from time, fog blanketed the pitch and the game was abandoned. The visitors have been reported to the League management committee.

On January 9, we went to Basildon, a much-improved side, and this was a very entertaining match with wingers Taylor and Weatherly outstanding for the Force side. Cannon and Taylor scored but their goals were well matched by Basildon and the game ended 2-2. The Basildon 'keeper saved some powerful first-time shots from Taylor.

Perhaps the most rewarding game was on January 16, when we played League leaders, Chadwell Heath at H.Q. Chadwell took an early lead and held on for most of the game, until Arnell decided to have a say and his great volley gave us a well-deserved point. Incidentally, two Southend lads, Arnell and Craven, played well in this match. I have been accused of stealing them from Southend but a County side should be made up of the best 11 players in the Force

Grays in cup runs

Grays Division soccer team manager Sergeant Ray Powell—he's the secretary, coach and trainer too—reckons the season is going well.

Playing in the Southend Wednesday League, the team has battled through to the semi-finals of the League Cup and Charity Cup competitions. "We see that as our entry into Europe," says Ray Powell of the Charity Cup.

In the league success has been only average with 10 points from the same number of games, but goals standing at 42 to 26 in their favour gives Grays some satisfaction and as they cannot now win the league reserves get a chance to play.

Top scorer is Tom Sanderson with 21 goals.

Earlier this season Ray Powell "fell out" with club chairman, Chief "Sugar" Bill Petherick, over the "transfer" of Sgt. Mick Curtis to Southend, but the chairman made amends by securing Peter Taylor, the former Norwich City player, to fill the gap.

Table Tennis

1st round: Harlow 4, Southend East 8; Staff 9, Grays 3, Semi-final: Staff 7, Clacton 5.

A CRACKING team performance at Windsor on January 27, brought a good victory in a match against Thames Valley and Herts. But only a powerful second lap by Larry Britt turned a half-way two-point deficit into a final eight-point win, as he advanced from 11th to seventh. Andy Down, equal first, Mick Barlow fifth, and Chris Whiting eighth, completed the scoring.

Result: Essex 'A', 21; Herts, 'A', 29; Thames Valley, 52; Essex 'B' (Hammond, O'Reilly, Madden, Jeffs), 58; Herts, 'B', 71; Essex 'C' (Blackwell, Fairweather, Grimshaw, Trout), 80; Essex 'D' (Tomkins, Cole, Weeks, Norman), 99; Essex 'E' (Grout, Schofield, Jaggs, Hawkins), 121. Forty runners started.

and it has always been my view that representing the County comes before Division. I do wish some "small-minded" people would realise that the Amalgamation took place on April 1, 1969—nearly two years ago—and it's about time we all pulled the same way—I'm referring to football only—and we showed other forces that Essex & Southend Joint Constabulary is a team to be reckoned with.

On January 26, we made our exit from the No. 5 Region P.A.A. Knock-out Cup, losing 3-2 to Beds. and Luton. I went into extra time and a penalty sealed the issue for the visitors. This was by no means one of the best matches seen on our ground and there were times when I thought players from both sides forgot they were footballers and joined the ranks of rugby players. We wish Beds. and Luton the very best but on this showing, they do not look potential winners of the competition.

We now look to the Olympian League Cup and concentrate on the League and at the moment we hold a good position but there's always room for improvement. I am looking forward to the day when some of those Cadets take the field, then perhaps some of our more rotund members will realise it's time to get down to some serious training! Seriously though, we do carry a lot of weight, don't we Ritchie Griffiths and Dave Wilkinson, but I'll be the first to admit you haven't let us down. Well, after all this lot, I'll sit it out and wait for the comments.

Rugby

January 13: 'K' Div., Metro., well scored 30-11. Mick Jackson scored five tries and Harris (2) and Neale (1) also scored.

January 20: Another good win over H.M.S. Ganges by 11-3. Harris and Sparkes scored.

January 27: In very muddy conditions the Force went down narrowly to 36 Heavy Air Regt., Shoebury, by 8-9. A penalty in the last minute did the damage. Sparkes scored all eight points.

ESSEX POLICE BOWLS TOUR 1971

The tour arranged from Saturday, May 1, to Saturday, May 8, this year, at Eastbourne has gone very well, and it looks like being the best tour ever. Eight six-rink matches have been made for men and six two-rink matches for the ladies.

There is one vacancy left and if there is any regular or retired officer and wife who would like to accompany us would they contact me immediately. Hotel accommodation is arranged.

REG VINEY, 29 West Road, Saffron Walden. Tel. Saffron Walden 2064.

By Bert Brinkley

I WOULD like to express on behalf of the treasurer (Mr. H. S. Phillibrown) and myself thanks and appreciation for the good wishes expressed in the many letters received. Unfortunately, it is not possible to reply individually but we ask you to accept this as a general acknowledgement.

Subscriptions have been reviewed and as from March 1, 1971, will be as follows:—

Pensioner & wife ... 48 new pence
 Widow pensioner ... 36 new pence
 Pensioner ... 12 new pence

It is hoped all subscriptions at the old rates (8/-, 5/-, 2/-) will be forwarded before the end of February as two different rates of subscriptions cannot be shown after that date.

The response for additional postage was overwhelming. When it is considered that over 300 bulletins are posted quarterly the increased postage will be foreseen. This whole-hearted support will help our funds considerably.

An Election promise by the Government is being fulfilled early in April, 1971. The Review of Public Service Pensions will be carried out as from April 1, 1971, but payment of any award will not be made until September 1, 1971.

Members will find it difficult to understand this ruling, but from the replies of the Parliamentary Secretary (Mr. David Howell) to the several Members of Parliament who spoke on the subject it is clear the Government has made up its mind on both dates referred to. Copy of Hansard for November 17, 1970, has been sent to all Branch Secretaries in the hope that representation will be made to local Members of Parliament. A letter from Chelmsford Branch to the Member for Chelmsford, Norman St. John-Stevens, was sent on December 26 and is reproduced below.

Dear Sir,

Pension Review Adjustment

I have received from our General Secretary an extract copy of Hansard, November 17, 1970, C.1040/1047, dealing with Public Service Pensions.

Firstly, it is apparent from replies of the Parliamentary Secretary to various Members who spoke on the subject, that whilst the Review would not take place before April 1, 1971, any subsequent award would not be payable before September 1, 1971.

It is appreciated the present two-year increase period does not expire until April 1, 1971, but it is difficult to see why any award cannot be retrospective to that date.

One reads of quite a number of instances where retrospective has been applied, and why Public Service Pensioners, who have given the best of their lives in furtherance of the efficiency and welfare of the Service, have been singled out for other treatment, leaves Members of this Branch—for whom I speak—with a feeling of great dissatisfaction. To say the Inquiry cannot complete its task is tantamount to nonsense. The facts should be readily available, snags there will be, but in capable hands, they should not be insuperable.

Finally, sir, the Members of this Branch beseech you, as our elected Representative, to do all in your power to hasten the Review—why not January 1?—and press for payment of any award to be made as from April 1, 1970.

You will appreciate, I am sure, many pensioners are on a very low scale, our widows in particular, and the ever increasing cost of living, the award, if not hastened, will be nullified. Any support you can give to the thoughts outlined above will receive the very grateful thanks of all Public Service Pensioners.

Yours truly,
 (sgd) B. G. BRINKLEY
 Secretary, Chelmsford Branch

One reply given by the Parliamentary Secretary is interesting and I quote—"Special measures will be necessary in relation to the pensions of the very old. As to the rest, certainly from 1946 onwards, it means bringing up the pensions to the equitable base-line which will enable the original

By Stan Smith

Members will have seen my comprehensive report on the pay talks which has been circulated by way of Joint Branch Bulletin No. 1/71. The Editor of this newspaper refers to his prediction that no matter what merit our claim may have, the Government will prevent our pay award from outstripping their policy. It is unfortunately true that a large number of our members will have left the Service before it becomes painfully obvious to those in power that we are woefully undermanned and that the Service will not be able to stem the rise in lawlessness for much longer. One has only to look a few miles westward to see women and children joining in violent action against police and the military, and one wonders if this sort of behaviour will spread. We have already had two bomb attacks on the homes of leading citizens and there is fear of the anarchists latching on to the T.U.C.'s planned demonstration in London. Violence is a contagious disease and the Service will have to be strengthened to cope with it if it comes to this country.



What are your prospects for promotion in the coming year? If the present trend of recruitment and wastage continues I would say virtually nil. Less than half of those officers in the pool from which promotions are to be made in the current year have been advanced in rank. The reasons are not hard to find—the Force has not expanded as was forecast, and probably fewer officers of rank have resigned to create the vacancies. Only a supreme optimist would say that the position is likely to ease, and we shall be stuck with few vacancies for some time. At the time of writing, the Force is short of its authorised establishment, which in itself is an artificial figure. Practically all the vacancies are in the rank of Constable and there will be no chance of any expansion of supervisory ranks until this establishment is achieved. With stagnation in the promotion system each aspirant will be faced with stiffer competition as more and more pass the promotion examinations and swell the pool of possibles. I realise that I sound like the prophet of doom, but it is no good running away from the facts, and those qualified will have to work that much harder to convince the Promotion Board that they are better than the next man.



The Force Open Meeting is to be held at Police Headquarters, Chelmsford, at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 2, 1971. Make a note in your diary and let your local representative know if you require transport. Coaches will be provided from funds where they are required. It is hoped to have a prominent member of the Joint Central Committee to speak on national matters, and the Chief Constable will outline his proposals respecting a new housing policy. This is probably the most important development in the Force at this time and is likely to have far reaching effects on every member of the Force. It will be in your interests to come along and hear him and you will then have the opportunity to put your views to your representatives.

The Law Shop

WANTED: 2 track tape recorder, any make, must be in working order and reasonably priced. Contact Pc Davison, Grays.

FOR SALE: One Trixon drum, kit complete, comprising of one 22 base drum, one 14 snare drum, one 14 hanging tom-tom, one 18 side tom-tom, one 18 sizzle symbol, two 14 high hat symbols, sticks, brushes, mallets and seat; £40 ono. Traffic Warden Cannon. Home tel. Grays Thurrock 2998.

FOR SALE: Silver Cross pram, blue, very good condition, £10; carrycot and stand, £3. Contact Pc 767 Cook, Canvey.

purchasing power to be restored for all pensions up to 1969. I hope that is clear."

It would seem that as all pensions are included, our widows will be dealt with at the same time.

We await, with patience, a satisfactory conclusion.

Another attractive proposal relates to a once and for all adjustment and the reduction of age for benefit (increase) from 60 to 55 years.

The P.S.P. Executive Committee met again on December 16 last and the result of this meeting is awaited.

It has not escaped the notice of the Executive Committee that only a restoration of purchasing power is contemplated (as outlined above) with no element in respect of current wages and salary rates and the standard of living of the community as a whole.

It is hoped for a good muster at our A.G.M. which will be held at Headquarters some time in March—details later. We hope for our usual guest speakers to perform once again.



A start has been made on the preparation of a claim for increased rent allowance. These negotiations take a long time to finalise and although we shall ask for the operative date to be April 1 this year, it may be next year before agreement is finally reached and the increase is paid.



I am grateful to those members who have expressed their pleasure at the honour conferred upon me, and I fully realise that the distinction is a mark of recognition of the part played in the Force of the lower ranks and by all Federation representatives. I am fortunate, perhaps, in being the most readily identifiable of these members.

WHAT'S ON

Life saving dates 1971

April 17: West Riding Cup (Cadets) eliminator—Sandhurst.

May 15: West Riding Cup finals—Hendon.

May 22: Allington Cup (Girl Cadets)—Blackpool

June 19: Police Baton (men) eliminator—Hendon.

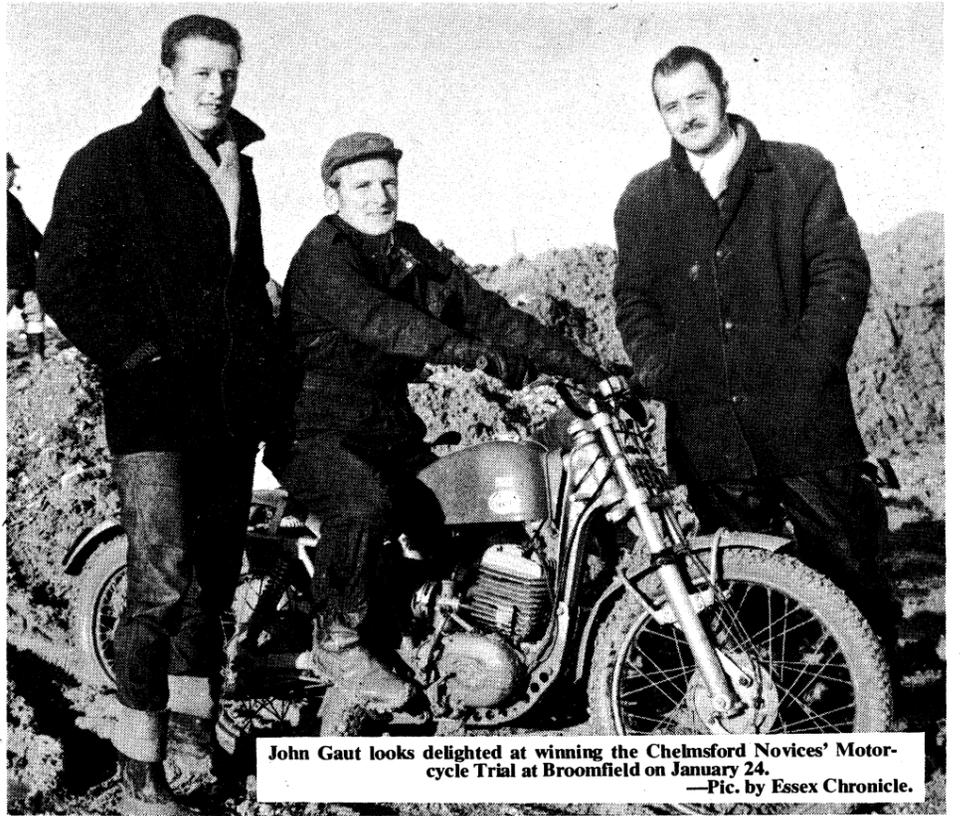
September 4: Allington Cup (policewomen), southern region eliminator—Hendon.

October 3: Allington Cup finals—Walsall.

October 23: Police Baton finals—Newport, Mon.

First Aid

April 14: Chief Warden's Cup at HQ. Rules now permit policewomen's team and participation by lay instructors.



John Gaut looks delighted at winning the Chelmsford Novices' Motorcycle Trial at Broomfield on January 24. —Pic. by Essex Chronicle.



Chelmsford Traffic Wardens with the Barber First Aid Cup which they won last month. —Pic. by Essex Chronicle.

FOR the attention of the Pigeon Liaison Officer, H.Q. Information Room, for circulation to all homing stations please.

In view of the postal strike it has been decided that homing pigeons will be taken into use forthwith. They will be issued as soon as supplies become available at the rate of one per beat.

Pigeons will be issued to beat officers by sergeants patrolling the relief. Each bird will bear the number of the beat to which it is assigned on a metal ring painted with alternate blue and white stripes. This ring will be known as a locket. Birds will also be issued to Inspectors and other officers, also the CID.

Suitable perches for the accommodation of pigeons inside the helmets of foot patrols will be issued as soon as supplies become available.

able. For the time being, however, a pencil secured by drawing pins through the ventilation holes of the helmet will serve as a suitable perch.

Although from time to time the pigeons will be found to make droppings whilst perched inside the helmet, discomfort can be avoided by wearing a suitable head covering such as a plastic skull cap. These will be issued as soon as supplies become available. In the meantime a small quantity of sand will be issued to each officer. This is to be lightly sprinkled on the hair and smoothed with a comb.

Any droppings will be collected and entered in the miscellaneous property book and then sprinkled evenly over the station garden.

Ex-guardsmen will not sing the desert song when issued with their sand.

Know your law answers

1. (e)
2. (c)
3. (a)

A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting of the Essex & Southend Branch of the International Police Association will be held at Headquarters Driving School, Chelmsford, at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, 3rd February, sharp. Please make an effort to attend.

The Annual General Meeting of No. 6(3) Region will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, 9th February, at the Police Club, West India Dock, London.

HEV YEW GOTTA LOIGHT BOY

I.P.A.

COLCHESTER SECTION

present a

DINNER/DANCE

at

THE COPDOCK HOUSE HOTEL

Thursday, February 11, 1971, at 7.30 p.m. for dinner at 8.00 p.m.

GUEST:

Allan Smethurst (alias the Singing Postman)

Tickets all inclusive, 45s.

Proceeds in aid of Colchester Youth House



Sgt. Derek Arbore receiving the Chelmer Tyre Trophy from Seaxs Motor Club chairman, Insp. Jim Hogarth. The cup is presented annually to the "member of the year" and the winner is adjudged to have done most for the club in competitions and organisation.