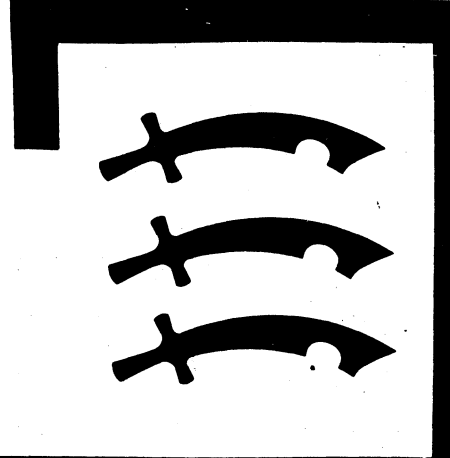




THE LAW

No. 61

APRIL 1974



The Newspaper of the Essex Police

Success rate of 1 in 8 at PAB's

As the first of the few attend their HQ upgrading course The Law looks at the promotion scene

THE END of the long trail for promotion aspirants came last month when constables whose quest began last summer finally heard the result of their endeavours.

And the 180 who set out with such high hopes were reduced by the end of the campaign to a mere 22.

Each constable who wishes to be considered for promotion to sergeant, having filled up a sheaf of papers, appears before a local promotion advisory board. Here he faces his own Chief Superintendent plus one from another division and an inspector also from another division.

This team either ends the constable's hopes there and then or recommends the applicant for interview by the central board at headquarters. Of the original 180 applicants in the 1973-74 interview series only 78 were sent to H.Q.

The headquarters interview board chairman is Mr. J. Duke, D.C.C., who is accompanied by Mr. C. Kelly A.C.C. (P) and a Chief Superintendent. Their main headache was obviously cutting down from 78 to 22, almost one in four, when all the interviewees are suitable — at least in the eyes of the local board. It is just that some are more suitable than others.

One in ten

A similar system is used for sergeants eager to become inspectors except that they go straight to headquarters. There were 86 of them this year of whom only nine were successful, a ratio of roughly one in ten.

This board is chaired by the Chief who sits with the D.C.C. and an A.C.C.

Time factor

The amount of time involved in all this interviewing is considerable: 164 applicants were seen at H.Q. and on the basis of about a half hour each this amounts to 82 hours, or over 10 working days. And this has to be fitted in between normal duties for members of the boards.

The numbers of successful applicants in 1973-74, 22 and nine, are some of the lowest on record. Mr. Kelly

A.C.C. (Personnel) is hopeful that the figures will rise though not until after the "wartime gap" has passed in about 1976.

This is the period of low recruitment during the war years, 1939-45, and the consequent period of few retirements at 30 years service between 1969 and 1975.

Normal flow

"But what we have to remember," says Mr. Kelly, "is that these figures are normal. What we have seen in recent years is abnormal."

It was increases in establishment and alterations to rank structure and responsibility which brought about the promotion bonanza of the late sixties.

"Many older members of the Force will remember that 22 to sergeant and nine to inspector is a normal promotion flow," added Mr. Kelly.

Added to this had been an easing of promotion examination regulations which have allowed constables to qualify young in service. Many of these are appearing before the local boards.

The Law asked Mr. Kelly if he could say how many vacancies there are likely to be in 1974-75. "Couldn't possibly," came the guarded reply, but the numbers are likely to match this year's.



RETIRING after 26 years service, 23 of them spent in Information Room at Headquarters, Constable Don Puxley received a memento from colleagues—pictured above right after he had received it from Supt. Moore, head of Communications Dept. With him are Mrs. Doris Puxley, who was presented with a bouquet, and daughter Athena. Pic by Essex Weekly News.

Essex County Newspapers introduce cash reward scheme

A NEW award scheme whereby monetary awards will be made to members of the public who have been of outstanding assistance to the police has been instituted. This replaces the scheme by which Mr Owen Whymark recently received a reward for his help in a bullion robbery in Essex.

To be called the Essex County Newspaper Award, the scheme allows for

rewards of £25 to be made in various parts of Essex for acts of public assistance to the police.

Local papers published by the Essex County Newspapers Group are coupled with sub-divisions for this purpose as follows: Maldon & Burnham Standard (Maldon); Braintree & Witham Times (Braintree & Witham); Chelmsford Weekly News

(Chelmsford); Essex County Standard (Colchester); East Essex Gazette (Clacton); Harwich and Dovercourt Standard (Harwich); Southend Observer (Borough of Southend).

A recent order directs Divisional Commanders to note suitable cases and recommendations will be considered each January by a panel made up of representatives of the Chief, the Superintendents Association and the Federation.

The awards, which could do much to foster public assistance to the police will be first made in 1975.

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Girl cadet lost in tragic river accident



IN a tragic accident during a canoe training session on the River Chelmer, Woman Cadet Lesley Beet was drowned on March 13. During training in rough water near a weir Cadet Beet capsized. She was eventually rescued but despite valiant efforts by cadet colleagues and police from Chelmsford she was dead on arrival at hospital.

The funeral, attended by the Chief Constable and other senior officers, took place at Harlow Crematorium on March 19 when cadets lined the approach road. So many attended that the service had to be relayed outside.

The Law extends sympathy to Lesley Beet's family and friends. Picture by kind permission of the Harlow Citizen.

Ediview

1st April 1974

Wonderland

HOW NICE it was to wake this morning to the realisation that one was no longer a member of a joint force. Mind you, the feeling of having escaped from an Alice in Wonderland situation was somewhat dispelled by parading in a chequered capband but we shall doubtless come to look upon these decorations as normal. Apart from this All Fools' Day, 1974, is not likely to leave a lasting impression on the police in Essex whose work will go on as if these minor political upheavals had never happened.

Federation impasse

THE FEDERATION Open Meeting, held last month, was the liveliest for some time. The C.I.D. had turned up in strength to air their grievances and did so with persistence. We thought they put their case rather well. The exchange showed one of those stalemate

situations which the rank and file find so frustrating. What it seemed to come down to was that C.I.D. want a bigger flat rate detective allowance, but this is contrary to Federation policy so they will not negotiate for it. The Federation has a policy on the other hand that all policemen should be paid overtime by the hour but this is a new concept as far as detective pay is concerned so the Pay Board will not allow it. All in all there seemed to be what is known these days as a credibility gap between platform and the detective element in the audience, a gulf which was widened rather than narrowed by the planned, and rather rude, walk-out by a section of the C.I.D. when the matter in which they were mainly interested was wound up.

Promotion holdup

NEWS items on the front and back pages of this issue will bring mixed reactions according to the reader's place in the scheme of things.

On the one hand comes the news that only nine

aspirants have been removed, by elevation, from the pool of sergeants awaiting promotion to inspector. One might have expected the pool to enlarge with the publication of the promotion examination results. But no, only seven passes were listed. And as three were constables and two women only the remaining two go into the pool proper though we shall probably get into trouble for excluding the women.

Can one read much into recent far lower examination pass rates? Only 21 passed to sergeant last November. The new regulations which put up the pass mark but permitted candidates to retake one paper seem to have stemmed the tide of successful examinees. Of course, human nature being what it is, shaky candidates will soon start concentrating their efforts on two papers in the first year and leaving the third until the following year. There should probably be a lower limit below which a candidate's mark would not qualify him to resit the one paper alone next year.

Those who did not pass will without doubt be less pleased at this new trend than those already qualified and those responsible for running the promotion advisory boards.

postbag

READERS' letters are welcomed but will not be published if unsigned. Those written under a pen name must be accompanied by a note of the writer's name. The editors reserve the right to edit any letter published in the interest of economy of space.



My Lamborghini was pushed by persons unknown into a No Waiting area resulting in a £2 drain on my private income. Also, an anonymous ill wisher stitched up the fly buttons on my expensively hand tailored doeskin uniform trousers which were left in my penthouse suite at the nick. I always travel to my residence in a white dinner jacket, dinner jackets do, I feel, excuse the strange hours of arrival and departure, so difficult to explain to my socially elite friends.

Only recently, the West wing of my rent aided pied a terre in Sloane Square, was mysteriously gutted by fire and I have had to employ the services of a real security organisation (NOT the Police).

Where will it all end? Even now I suspect that my wife, of very good family, three times Miss Tatler and

twice Queen of Horse and Hound, is being secretly sullied by a detective constable of unsavoury origins. What is more, my mistress, a young and beautiful daughter, heiress to an unearned income, is recovering from a compromising liaison with a probationer from Worktop who wouldn't know the difference between a stuffed Olive and a stuffed Daphne.

Yes dear sir, you have my sympathy. Incidentally, I did enjoy your TV series. Or was that another Burke?

Yours, etc.

John DOUBLE Pc 876
(International Jet Set Streaker)

Not what he meant to say

Dear Sir,

I should be grateful if you would allow me through your columns to qualify a statement I made at the recent Federation Open meeting.

I mentioned, inter alia, that an Administrative Sergeant in this Division was, by virtue of overtime payment, taking home greater monthly pay than myself.

I intended to draw attention to the way in which overtime payment had allowed many officers,

including those employed on Administrative duties, to benefit financially by the scheme. My complaint was not against that Department in particular but I meant to highlight the relatively abysmal situation in comparing the payment of Detective officers against the question of working unsocial hours.

I did not name anyone but it seems that I may have unwittingly offended one particular officer in this Division.

For the record, I have not caught sight at any time of the Harlow Administrative Sergeant's pay cheque nor has he discussed the matter with me.

I intended to draw a parallel against the circumstances already discussed. Nevertheless I feel obliged to ask you to publish this letter in order to clarify the situation.

A. D. Cook,
Det. Sgt.

Harlow.

Knocking the Boro again

Dear Sir,

I have noticed in the March issue of The Law yet another dig at ex-Southend Borough officers wearing obsolete borough badges.

If the author of this article took the trouble to obtain photographs of ex-Essex Constabulary officers wearing obsolete "Sea Axe" shields on their shoulders I would think that they would fill the next three editions of The Law. Perhaps it is not generally realised that this badge became just as obsolete on amalgamation, or is it only Southend officers who are liable for criticism.

I should also point out that on amalgamation the old borough epaulettes were handed in and new ones issued complete with shiny new borough badges.

By the time this letter is published we will be bearing the grand title Essex Police, perhaps then we will unite under one badge, I wonder.

Vic Martin, Southend.

Yes, we wonder too. In fact only after the last issue was in print did we notice, on page 7, a constable resplendent in Essex epaulettes, so one up to you, Mr. Martin, for a correct assessment of the situation, but go to the bottom of the class for not noticing page 7. — Ed.

Laindon a disaster area

Dear Sir,

We at Laindon were very interested to read in the "Law" newspaper that our building extension had been postponed. In which case someone should have told the builders. Perhaps the mishaps which have befallen us are a 'pipe dream'. At present we are only in occupation of 3 rooms with all its problems of working elbow to elbow and we add to this the havoc caused by the builders themselves, viz:

1. Water main broken twice leaving us without same for several days.
2. Main sewerage pipe broken, about which I dare not say more.
3. Telephone cable severed—Oh bliss, no calls for 2 days.
4. Office wall blown down in strong

5. Central heating off for several days whilst pipes were re-routed.

We have had our lighter moments, such as when the sewerage pipe was broken and it was necessary to keep the trench pumped dry. Easy, just run a pipe to the nearest manhole cover. For 3 days they tried to pump the trench dry — Oh calamity and red faces, because the manhole fed the sewage back to our pumphouse and then into the trench again. However, enough is enough and it was just to let you know that our building extensions were not postponed.

Yours sincerely,

John Clarke (insp.)
Police Traffic Garage, Laindon.

For one dreadful moment we thought we had got it wrong again but, no, the extensions to Laindon Traffic are being done in two phases and it is the second of these, dependant in any case on the purchase of adjoining land, which had been deferred.

We liked your story about the Irishman's manhole cover and sincerely apologise for getting your name wrong last time, Mr. Clerk. — Ed.

Paper economy

Police Station,
ONGAR.

Dear Sir,

Once again we are being urged to economise with paper. This could be a golden opportunity to dispense with much of the memoranda which arrives by every post if only someone at the top would make a decision and stop the flow.

It must have been a Policeman who said: "You can throw it away after you have made a copy." As a start, since we are no longer inspectors under the Diseases of Animals Acts surely there is no need for the mass of gaily coloured posters to be displayed at every Police Station in the County? Who reads them? I have yet to see the local farmers in the Ongar area pay regular visits to our notice board. I'm sure they receive most of their information direct by other sources. Any query we may receive can be adequately dealt with by contact with the Ministry Inspectors.

As a slight digression; being brought up during the last war I find it very difficult to throw away cardboard boxes, small tins and plastic containers which might come in useful for storing various treasures. But there is a limit to the sort of things that can be stored in those plastic boxes which once contained typewriter ribbons. Can anyone offer a use for these boxes?

G. W. DARBY,
P.c. 499

Calculations take time too

Dear Sir,

Thank you for printing my reply regarding paper work.

I cannot help thinking that you 'had your tongue in your cheek' when making your editorial comments, but in reply to the question posed by you regarding tea breaks — I would mention that I made this point for a particular reason — so that the person(s) responsible for making this remark would see it (I put a copy of my letter on our notice board in the canteen).

With reference to your question as to how long it took to type my letter to you — well, we can only type at 60 wpm on the typewriters we have to use, so it took me precisely seven minutes.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs. P. M. WAYMAN
Shorthand-Typist

Ah, yes, but then you see, you just can't win because now we're working out how long it took you to work out how long it took. — Ed.

programme it is beginning to sound like music — and that's some achievement. Certainly it is highlighting our need for some first class cornet players. Any volunteers?

We are giving a concert at Southend Police Station at 7 p.m. on Friday May 10 for Police pensioners and friends. It should be a trial run and preview for the 18th. I understand all will be welcome.

I look forward to seeing all our old supporters and many new ones on both occasions.

They tampered with his car

Police Station,
SAFFRON WALDEN.
14th March 1974

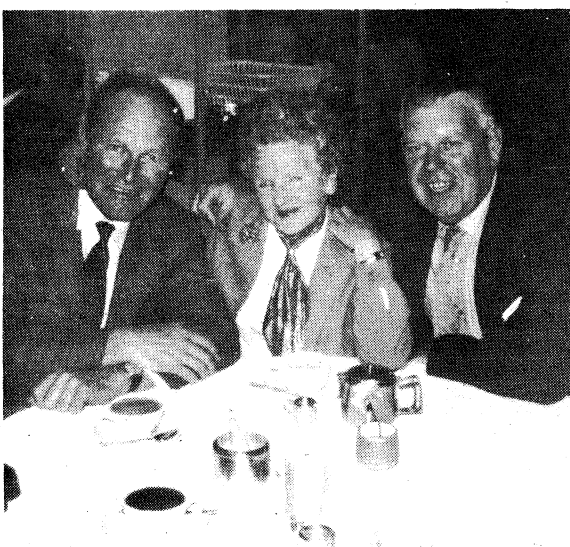
Dear Sir,

I have every sympathy with the writer, last issue, who had found his Bentley motor car vandalised. I too, am a devout Materialist and worship the god "POSSESSION". As your correspondent, I have suffered at the hands of non-believers.

Pictures of Reg Viney's recent Hong Kong trip



PICTURES of Reg Viney in Hong Kong — letter last month — when he and his wife visited Dan Hare, currently stationed there. In the top picture Reg meets Dan's dogs (what's Chinese for down boy?) in the garden of Dan's House. Bottom left proves Dan Hare is alive and well and in the picture below the ladies — Mesdames Viney and Hare — find their advances to some of the locals met with inscrutable gaze.



Federation stage successful Open Meeting

IF Federation open meetings are measured by audience participation then the gathering of 18th March was a success: if the measurement is audience satisfaction one can be less certain.

The CID had turned up in strength to complain about their pay and conditions but as the platform were unable to give them the answer they had come to hear they could not be satisfied and when the chairman put the block on further discussion of the matter a small faction staged a loutish walk-out.



Eric Osborne, Sussex J.C.C. member, speaks on pay.

SPEECHES from the platform which opened the meeting gave no indication of the fireworks to come. All were moderate in tone and the speakers seemed bent on avoiding confrontation.

Opening, Chairman Phil Weall confessed to being as nervous as he was in 1973, and later jocularly took the Secretary to task for not providing him with water to drink. But he warmed up noticeably and the cut and thrust of question time produced an assured delivery.

He tripped lightly over the multitude of subjects on which he had little to say going on to the subject of pay on which he said the J.B.B., "Hope and pray for a substantial pay rise in September."

"Last year," he went on, "the loss of a paid rest day was just about balanced by the pay rise." Although overtime was available it was not evenly spread. Men in some divisions had little chance of overtime.

Mr. Weall struck a totalitarian note when he expressed Federation concern over the staffing of Information Room.

Apparently the anomaly exists that while the radio operators are "only young girls", volunteers from members of the Force to work in I.R. cannot be found.

Even the Chief's agreement to allow anyone interested to work a trial period to see if he liked it

"the first to be directed would be the sergeants and constables of the Joint Branch Board". (Laughter, applause and collapse of Federation totalitarian party.)

Promotion

But Mr. Nightingale had not set up in opposition to the Palace of Varieties and made many serious observations on the past year, among them a few



Before a backdrop which suggests a rather more open meeting than was intended, the Chief addresses a packed hall. The meeting was staged before the musical society's forest scene backdrop.

had no effect, said Mr. Weall, and the Federation felt that the time was coming when the Chief Constable would have to "persuade, threaten or, if necessary, post men to Information Room". (Raised eyebrows and look of horror from Chief.)

The Chairman ended by thanking Mr. Nightingale for his courtesy towards the Joint Branch Board in the past year and assured him that morale in the Force was high.

This produced a great groan from many parts of the hall and was perhaps a foretaste of things to come later.

words on promotion.

The flow had been sluggish in 1973 — and would not be much better for a while — but there had been 47 advancements. The PAB system was as fair as any system could be, he thought.

The Chief wound up with an apology for not being in very good voice due to "five days in Paris at the firm's expense," though until he mentioned it, one suspects, no-one had noticed.

Visitors speak on pay and war service

TWO MEMBERS OF the Joint Central Committee billed to speak at the meeting kept their speeches short but informative. They were Eric Osborne of Sussex, a speaker last year and Les Curtis from Surrey making his first such address.

He did well, covering such topics as compensatory grant and overtime regulations and assured his listeners that the Federation is held in esteem in all quarters for the "civility, sanity and lawfulness", with which it approaches matters.

Eric Osborne announced that the Joint Central Committee would be

meeting the Home Secretary that week about a comprehensive review of police pay this year. "But we shall aim for something on account on September 1," he added.

Explaining Federation Policy he said that there was no wish to enter the field of "unsocial hours" unless forced to, and that CID overtime should be paid on an hourly basis.

He announced that the question of war service in the armed forces counting towards pensions had come up again after being thought dead. Negotiations would be re-opened, he said.

But to the audience just sit "looking smug"

"YOU SIT up there looking smug," said D/S Alan Cook from the audience. "But you don't get anything done."

At this the platform looked startled, stunned, surprised, in fact anything but smug. Led by their Joint Branch Board representative, Fred Watts from South-end, the large numbers of CID members present launched a determined assault over conditions and remuneration. Apparently they are underpaid and underworked (no this is not a misprint, overtime is being curtailed) and the Federation "don't want to know".

It was all a matter of Federation Policy said several speakers, without avail. The CID want a bigger flat rate allowance and that is against Federation Policy, and the Federation want overtime paid on an hourly basis and that is a new concept and the Pay Board will not allow it.

So there the matter stood and so did some of the audience in the course of their pre-arranged walk-out demo. It cut no ice and lost the CID what sympathy they had gained.

After this the only real issue to come up was that of standby at home on rest days, a matter the Chairman

Chief cut short by "five days in Paris"

THE CHIEF replying, said he had been that afternoon at the final meeting of the Joint Police Authority and had been asked to thank all members of the Force for their work over the past five years.

Parasites

One wonders if it is not Mr. Nightingale who packs that hall year after year with his way of explaining mundane or downright unpalatable facts in terms at which one cannot help but smile.

"I suppose you'll think the parasites at HQ are doing rather well," he said with mock resignation, after announcing that most other

police building projects, except the HQ extension, had been put back because of the financial situation.

"I'm as badly off as you and if Denis Healey gets his way I shall be a damn sight worse," said he on pay, opining that 1973 had not been a good year.

He was pleased that rent was no longer charged on garages attached to police houses because, "I've got two," he said amid laughter.

Perhaps the best audience reaction was reserved for his remarks on the Chairman's ideas for staffing Information Room. The Chief was not in favour of compulsion it seemed but if the worst came to the worst,

First course for Wardens-10 years ago

HOW time passes! As the Force presses on under yet another title, five years after the last one, another anniversary comes up.

It is just a decade since Chelmsford was invaded by the yellow peril: ten years since the Traffic wardens were sent forth into the County town by Sergeant John Smith.

And ten years and a few tickets later some of them are still brandishing their arms, among other duties, at the Army and Navy Roundabout morning and evening. Indeed it is right to point out that this sort of duty — controlling moving traffic — is a far cry from their early days.

No prizes for guessing what other duties they may have taken over in another decade. It was on April 4, 1964, that the first 10 rolled up to HQ to begin training and we reproduce the official photograph taken before their departure.

The Wardens, standing were, from left, Christy, Busby, Morgan, Baker,



Moore, Swash, Brown and Francis. Seated on the left is the present Senior Warden Len Taylor and on the right Warden Nolan with Sgt. Smith on his right.

Even training had

another name then being known as Organisation and Training — the dropping of the former half of the title could be significant — and Supt. Docker, then in charge, seated centre, has since

retired. On his right are Insp. Searle — now Traffic Divisional Commander and Sgt. Heavens, transferred away. Chief Insp. Challis, now in command of Chelmsford Division, has

gone full circle and still has some of the same wardens under his wing.

But now we have lady wardens as a recent Essex Police Magazine picture showed — alas not on duty at the time.

The Law double feature on the Headquarters actually planned — an

New H.Q. building should be on time

ALTHOUGH the capital building plan did not survive the axe when financial matters recently took a turn for the worse the extensions planned for Headquarters were considered to be of sufficient urgency, particularly the communications suite, for strenuous arguments to be put up in its support.

The starting date is therefore still likely to be Autumn, 1974. What it might cost is another matter. With equipment prices rising daily, any present guess would be meaningless by the Autumn.

Built on six floors the building will be most impressive. Starting at the bottom there is a "semi-basement" which is given over to storage and vehicle parking. Above this the ground floor contains a rifle range, amenity areas and a vehicle radio maintenance bay.

Demolition of present buildings to start in Autumn 1974

Whole floor of amenities

The first floor is linked by a "catwalk" corridor to the existing "Traffic" block. This floor is entirely given over to amenity with a bar-lounge, billiards room, a TV room, officers' dining-room, kitchen and a large 'T'-shaped dining-room running through two floor levels.

CID will occupy the second floor. Photographic will move from their present premises (to be taken by Registry is the current guess) and will have well appointed studios for colour work and two dark rooms.

Communications 2 floors deep

Above this level comes Superintendent Moore's communications domain. The main control room, 40ft. x 60ft. is on the third floor and is two floors in depth so

that the public viewing room and command room on the fourth floor look down into it.

Also on the third floor are teleprinters, fingerprints, M.O. and property index, and the Criminal Intelligence Section.

The fourth floor contains the CID command suite, offices given over to Task Force and various offices connected with Communications. On the roof will be a radio equipment room and "cooling plant."

The whole building will add much to the appearance of Headquarters. As most people approach from the Sandford Road direction their first impression now might be that they were entering a derelict garage.

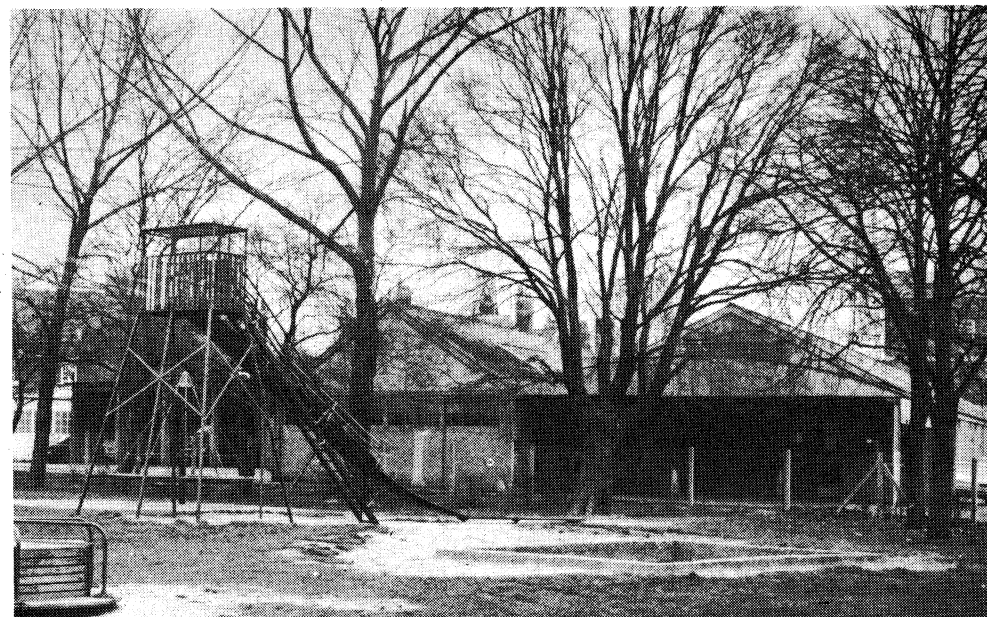
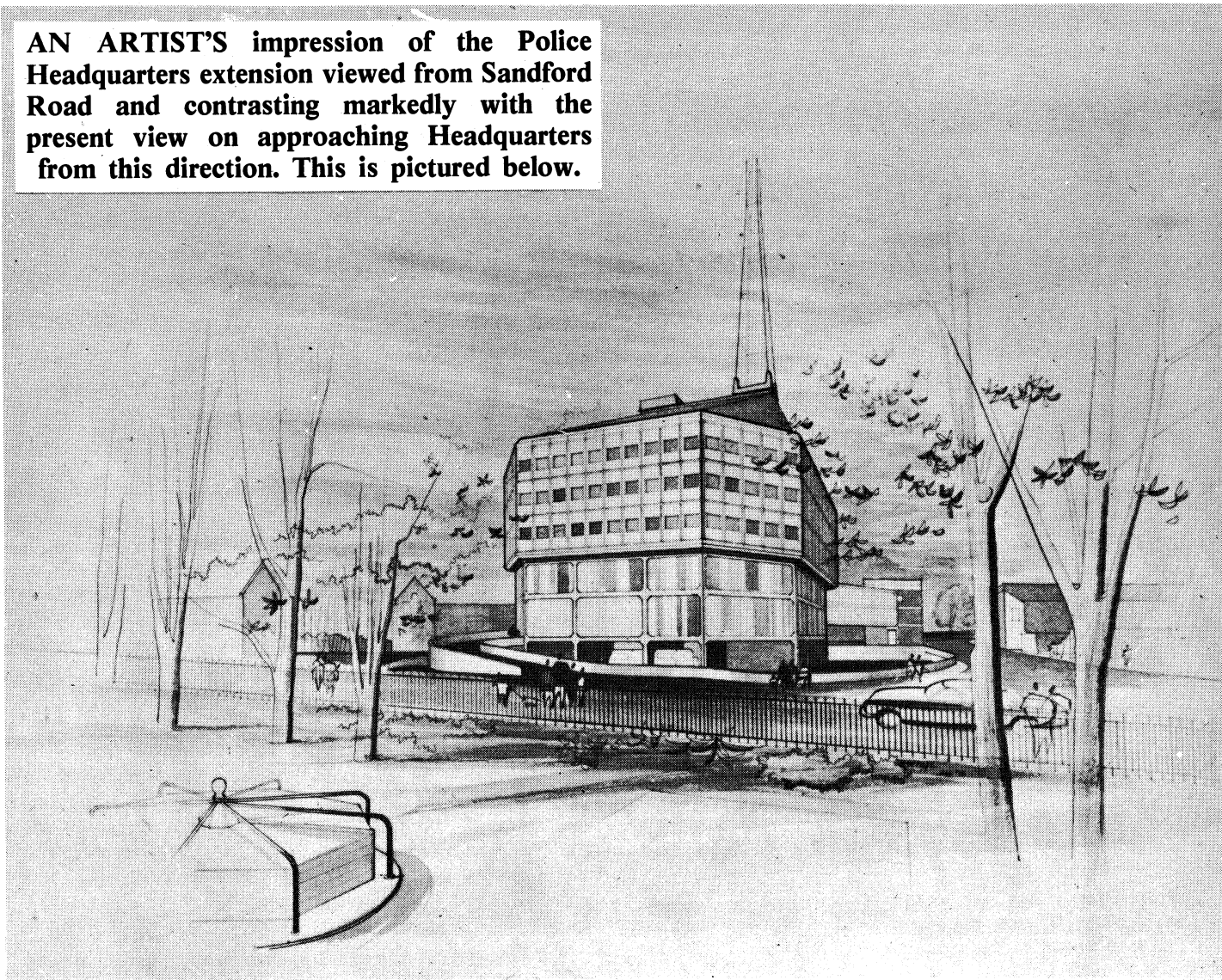
Famous hole to be filled

But the building operation itself, on so congested a site, will pose problems. The earth from the excavation will be put into the famous

hole on the corner of St. Margaret's Road — by processions of trucks. Displaced parked vehicles will have to be put elsewhere. Service deliveries to HQ will be disrupted and not just for weeks but for years.

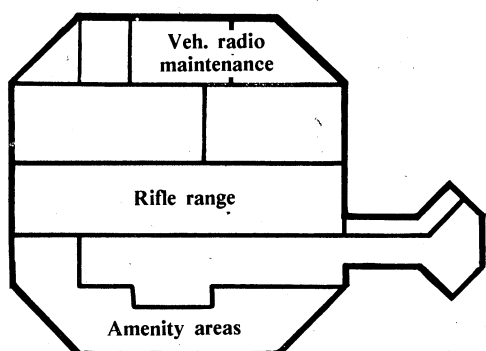
The end product, however, could be well worth the trouble — for those still here to see it.

AN ARTIST'S impression of the Police Headquarters extension viewed from Sandford Road and contrasting markedly with the present view on approaching Headquarters from this direction. This is pictured below.

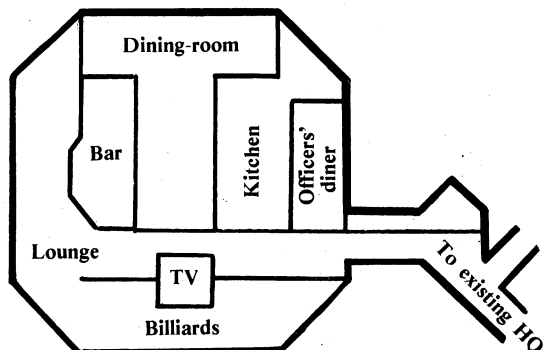


Departments each floor will house

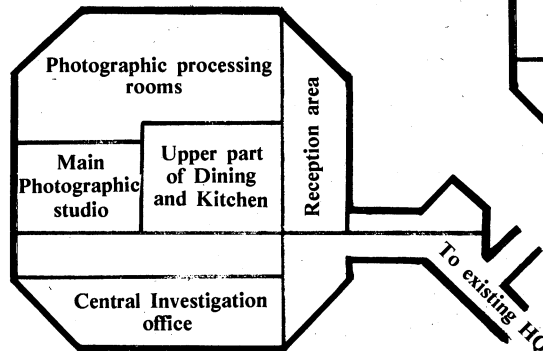
GROUND FLOOR



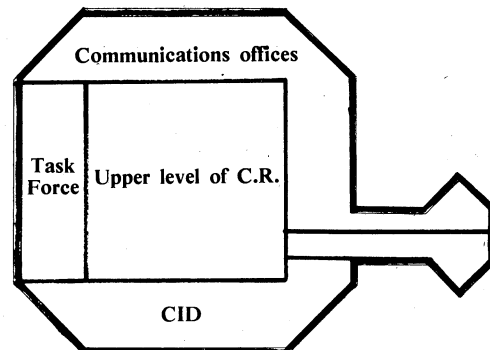
FIRST FLOOR



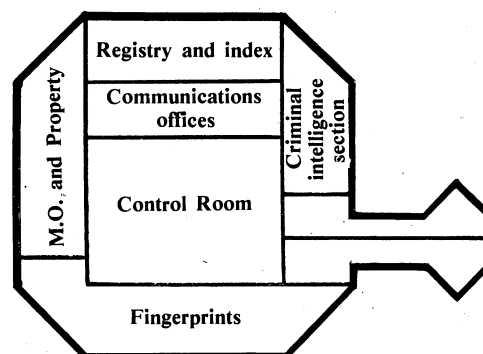
SECOND FLOOR



FOURTH FLOOR



THIRD FLOOR



and the layman's view of what a Police Headquarters should be like

Architecture student designs a Police HQ

THE present Headquarters complex was first occupied in 1900 and the original buildings have since been altered and extended until now the operations of the Police Force for the whole of Essex are controlled from an assortment of disconnected buildings.

Already the existing premises are overcrowded and the time has almost been reached whereby further expansion of headquarters would be prevented because of the surrounding residential development.

The extension to headquarters featured on the opposite page may be the last major development possible at the present site.

The prospect of new premises in the future is therefore quite likely and already the A.C.C. has applied to the Home Office for permission to have a feasibility study carried out. All these facts had little to do with Mr. John Sargent and his family who live in a neat semi-detached house in Hadleigh, until approximately two years ago.

Heart set on Town Hall

Then he was studying architecture and was approaching his Final examinations for membership of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Part of this examination is the design of a building and John had set his heart on designing a Town Hall for Basildon. However, as the time drew near for him to start his search into this subject he received a blow to his plans when the Maud report was published. Suddenly Basildon Council would change overnight and any assistance given would be of no use whatsoever.

John turned his mind to other types of local government scheme and eventually, after attending the Architects Department at County Hall, decided at his design project for a purely academic exercise would be a Police Headquarters with particular emphasis on the communications centre.

Having decided on the type of building he would design but knowing that it could never be built the next problem was what would be required and how one would find out what Police requirements were.

Discussions with Planning officer

He started by having discussions with the planning and development officers at Headquarters and worked out a statement of the personnel required at the headquarters in fifteen years, based on the figures of the Essex and Southend Joint Constabulary.



An aerial view of Mr Sargent's "model" police headquarters



DESIGNER of the "model" Police H.Q., John Sargent, with his wife and daughter.

He followed this with further discussions and visits to Headquarters to examine the organisation and the way in which it controls the eight police division.

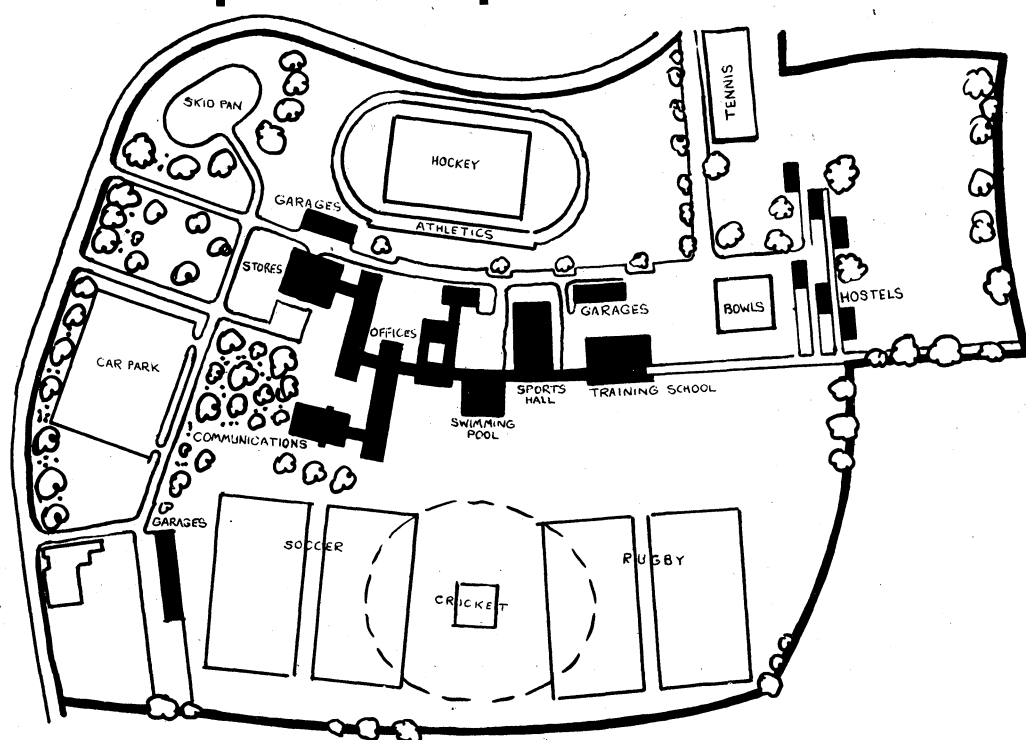
He says, "In the present headquarters the elements and groups which control the running of the police work are mixed up, but if a large force is to be really efficient its organisation must be rationalised and also be flexible."

He examined the organisation of the Essex Headquarters with specific problems of organisation in other counties by visiting some of the newer premises, by sending questionnaires to many others, and by approaching the Home Office and any other police officers and architects who had recent experience in the design of Force Headquarters buildings.

Having gone into the problems of providing all the normal requirements, offices for the "command

element", administration, Criminal Investigation, Mr. Sargent investigated the needs for catering and recreation. In his design he has provided for a restaurant, mainly for the use of officers working at the headquarters, but which can also be used by officers on courses, by visitors and for social functions.

As will be seen from the outline plan of the complex many sports pitches and facilities have also been included. Mr. Sargent said, "When I was looking around for land on which this project could be built I found a site near to Chelmsford which would accommodate the proposed layout and have a fair amount of land left over and I therefore included two football pitches, two rugby fields, a cricket pitch, athletics track, hockey pitch, swimming pool and sports hall. Many senior officers in other forces have emphasised the need for a sports hall and swimming pool at the headquarters



and although not many have been built, the size of the Essex force could justify the provision of such features. These facilities will assist recruitment and encourage all of the officers in the force to visit headquarters."

After two years of hard work Mr. Sargent produced his finished design to the examiners for the Royal Institute of British Architects, together with all the technical details, design report and a 10,000 word dissertation on the project. He obtained a pass mark.

However, as his wife, Gillian, said, "It seems a pity that all that hard work has been done knowing full well from the outset that the buildings will never be built."

Mr. Sargent has, in his design report acknowledged the help of many people on this project, but in particular and this is quoted from the report, "Thanks must be given to the officers in the planning and development group at the Essex Headquarters who have given considerable help, first in preparing the brief and then in discussing the proposals through various stages of the design."

The Joint Force Types series having been painfully put down by recent political decisions affecting local government arrangements. The Law cast about and came up with a new Essex Police series called The Shift.



Left to right, top: "Her," always top of the course, exams are child's play, writes off pandas with abandon; "Brains," several 'A' levels, bottom of the course at Eynsham; "Plod," no brains, top at Eynsham; bottom: The office man (when not sick); "Guv," and "Sarge."

Superma'am gets in on the sporting scene



Supt H Welburn presents team winners plaques to the Force 'A' team, from right Julia Foster, Michele Hicks and Bernadette Cussen. Picture by Essex Weekly News.



IN their new all white gear and with mascot, ears aflop, the team pose before the final. standing, from left, Jeanette Yoxen, Pat Cole, Maureen Chaplin and Jane Trollope: kneeling Pat Gubb, Diane Lewis (capt) and Ginny Granville. On the right a delighted Superma'am raises the trophy on high — "in a pub on the way home".



Girls win relay and league title

THE FINAL race of the women's S.E. cross country league for 1973-74 was the 3 x 2 miles road relay held at Chelmsford on March 6.

The police event was coupled with an invitation girls' schools' relay and a total of 25 teams lined up to be sent off by W.Supt. Welburn.

From the start the Essex 'A' and 'B' teams showed better form than last year when they finished 7th and 9th overall. Julia Foster ended her leg in 3rd place — the leading police runner — in 12m 31s, the fastest police time of the day, about a half minute ahead of Shirley Keeble in the 'B' team. The other police teams were already over three minutes adrift and never got back.

The 'A' team, Michele Hicks and Bernie Cussen, eventually ran through to win the police event, finishing fourth overall with the 'B'

team. Brenda Burgin and Anne Crust, under 2 minutes behind, 7th.

End of season

This result brings a triumphant end to the 1973-74 league season with a resounding win for the Essex girls. Not only has the team won by a clear 330 points but Essex girls have taken the top 6 individual places.

Teams: Essex 571; Surrey 241; Kent 159; Thames Valley 154; Herts 96; City of London 72.

Individual placings: 1st J. Foster 149; 2nd M. Hicks 142; 3rd S. Keeble 141; 4th B. Burgin 123; 5th S. Moss 93; 6th B. Cussen 86; 8th A. Crust 73; 10th R. Beardwell 55; 19th M. Oldall 24; 28th J. Yoxen 21; 32nd A. Dempsey 20; 24th J. Beer 19; 35th B. Wright 19; 38th J. Young 18; 40th L. Fell 17; 47 scored.

Relay result

Teams: Essex 'A' 38.34; Essex 'B' 40.21; Kent 48.18; Surrey 'B' 52.23; Surrey 'A' 53.06; Thames Valley 53.19. **Essex lap times:** J. Foster 12.31; B. Cussen 12.58; M. Hicks 13.05; S. Keeble 13.06; B. Burgin 13.33; A. Crust 13.42; J. Beer 16.59.

Two Teams in Bridges Relay

TWO teams contested the London Fire Brigade "bridges" 4 x 3 miles relay on March 10, when the runners crossed the Thames twice, over Lambeth and Vauxhall bridges.

With no hope of team honours team selections had been made with internal interest in mind and the result was that the 'A' squad got up on the last lap to pip their 'B' colleagues by one second.

Lap times: C. Skingley 16.36; K. Nowell 16.38; G. Matthews 16.53; L. Berry 17.04; T. Williams 17.23; P. Blois 17.45; M. Faulkner 17.50; M. Mattack 18.01.

Rugby

ON THE 27th February the force played HMS Ganges at Priory Park. After a slow start the team settled down and in the second half scored three times; with high winds conversion attempts failed. Ganges fought back but could only score one try which was converted. The game finished at 12-16 to the Police after playing defensively during the last ten minutes.

The game on the 6th March was cancelled but the team members turned up for a sevens practice for the following week.

On 13th March the Force took part in the No.5 Region Sevens at Syon Park, Middlesex, entering two teams. The first to play was the 'B' team which was beaten in the first round despite good play from Parsons and Foster. The 'A' team were given a bye into the second round but also lost by a score of 16-0.

Owing to the 3rd Royal Green Jackets going abroad the Force again went to Priory Park for a practice match on 20th March. With a large turnout a 12-a-side was played with good tries coming from both sides.

Service race

RUNNING in the Inter Services League at Wimbledon on March 20, cadet runners found themselves lining up with Ghurkas, Paras, Matelots and Airmen. The standard was high but in a field of about 140 they showed well.

Time and places: 51st C. Skingley, 34.54; 55th K. Nowell, 35.07; 68th G. Matthews 35.48; 70th T. Williams 35.50; 81st A. King 36.30; 93rd P. Blois and L. Berry 37.32; 95th M. Faulkner 37.40; 98th I. Brown 38.00; 109th M. Mattack 39.08.

Christian Police Association Essex Branch

A branch meeting will be held at the home of Mr. W. Urwin, at No. 53 Shakespeare Avenue, Laindon, at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 26th April, 1974. Anyone who is interested will be most welcome.

National netball final goes into extra time

IT WAS a fantastic game! The final of the PAA national policewomen's netball competition for the Becke Trophy took place at Imber Court, and was a close fight between our policewomen and the girls of

Lincolnshire Constabulary, writes Maureen Scollan.

Within 10 minutes of the start there were two goals each, but then Lincolnshire

began to pull away, their well practised manoeuvres and the height of their shooter standing them in good stead.

At quarter time it was 7-2 to Lincolnshire, and their supporters were vying with those from Essex in shouting appropriate slogans, much to the amusement of Commander Mrs. Becke and Miss Law, H.M.I., who stood on the sidelines. After three-quarters our girls had reached 11 goals while Lincolnshire's total stood at 17.

Level at full time

Then Essex began to fight back, due no doubt to the combined efforts of Supermarm's war dance, the appearance of the team mascot, and the urging of her colleagues by goalkeeper Mo Chaplin. Slowly our score crept up... 14, 15, 16, 17... The fight continued, and just as the final whistle went the score was equal, 20 each. Lincolnshire voices were quieter now, and the Essex supporters were beside themselves. There were tears, creaking voices and many, many crossed fingers. Could we do it? We must do it.

Extra time

Five minutes extra time each way was announced, and almost immediately intrepid shooter Jeanette Yoxen scored, then again and again, until the score stood at 20 to 24 in our favour. In the final five minutes Lincoln scored once, twice, three times, then another goal for Essex. The girls were fighting for victory; the spectators hardly dared to look. Then suddenly it was the final whistle, and Essex had won the cup with 25 goals to Lincolnshire's 23.

Presentation

It was a weary but very happy occasion which received the cup from Commander Mrs. Becke; captain, Diane Lewis; goalkeeper, Mo Chaplin; wing attack, Jane Trollope; goal defence, Virginia Granville; wing defence, Pat Gubb; goal shooter, Jeanette Yoxen, and goal attack Pat Cole, with reserves Brenda Burgin and Lesley Robinson.

It was an especially happy occasion for Woman Superintendent Welburn, shortly returning to the Cheshire Constabulary, as she will share her memories of the day when the south of England triumphed over the north.

Track & Field

AN AFTERNOON'S SPORT

The Inter-divisional athletics championships take place at Melbourne Stadium, Chelmsford, on Thursday, May 30, 1974.

EVENTS

Men: 100, 200, 400, 800, 1500, 3000 steeplechase, 3000 walk, 1600 relay, shot, discus, javelin, high jump, long jump.

Women: 100, 200, long jump, high jump. These four are inter-divisional, the following cadet events are open to women as guests: shot, javelin, 800, 2000 walk, 400 relay.

Spectators welcome: assistance needed.

Walking

MARCH has been something of a preparatory month as the team worked towards contests to come later but never quite got to grips with the races which fell in the period itself.

Highlight of the month was the National 10 miles championship when Alan King had a fairly good one though only managing 77th place. The rest of the team were a little below par.

Inter-County

Other races varied in distance from 6 kilos (3½m) up to 15 miles. The latter event was the annual Essex v Sussex match at Steyning when members of the team represented the County with little support from other clubs. Les Berry moved well here, covering the second half four minutes faster than the first.

April will find the squad engaged at distances varying from 6 up to 125 miles — this distance being John Hedgethorpe's target in the Rouen 24 hours race. He will be accompanied by the junior and girls teams for matches against Normandy.

Essex League

Nearer home Essex League events include the Chelmsford 20 kilos and the Chelmsford to Southend 20 miles county championship.

High mileage: may speeds match!

RESULTS

Battersea 6 miles: 2-3-74

19th D. Sheppard 49.23; 32nd J. Hedgethorpe 50.51; 47th L. Berry and T. Williams 53.22; 66th G. Matthews and P. Blais 56.42; 69th W. Stephen 57.12; 70th D. Coleman 57.12; 92nd R. Simmons 63.12.

Keston 14½ miles: 9-3-74

22nd J. Hedgethorpe 2h 7m 21s; B. Daymond 2h 22m 22s.

Coventry 6 kilos: 9-3-74

13th A. King 30.23; 31st D. Sheppard 32.46; 38th R. Sheppard 34.7; 43rd W. Stephen 35.15; 46th A. Masson 35.44.

National 10m: Leicester: 16-3-74

77th A. King 84.44; 115th J. Hedgethorpe 88.03; 157th L. Berry and T. Williams 91.38; 215 finished.

Steyning 15 miles: 23-3-74

8th J. Hedgethorpe 2-17.0s; 11th L. Berry 2-20.47; 19th B. Daymond and K. Mann 2-37.45; 22nd A. Masson 2-44.03.

Netball

PART of the success enjoyed by the Force netball team this season must be due to last year's decision to play the cadet team in the Chelmsford League this winter. A glance at the photo above shows that four of the team are cadets whose regular matches keep them on top form.

High Scores

Newly elected, the cadet team was put into Division Three of the league where they have made a great impact and achieved some good looking score lines.

With one match to play they are well on the way to being Division Three champions.

Last match

In two recent matches cadets' winning scores went above 30. Springfield 'C' were on the receiving end of a 32-19 beating on March 20 and this was followed last week by a wider victory at 35-18 over Tridents. Cadets wind up their programme with their last match this week.

But the men must be content with 4th

LINING UP for the final race of the S.E. Police League season the Force team faced the formidable task of needing to pull back 20 points on third placed Thames Valley to get amongst the medals for the season as a whole.

In the event it just wasn't on — in fact Thames Valley went well enough to overtake Sussex and fill second place to winners, Herts — and despite taking third police place in the relay Essex had to be content with 4th place overall.

A disappointing season therefore. Andy Down has maintained good forms and was able to take third individual place, only 3 points behind the winner P. Burdmead, Sussex. M. Wayland, Surrey, finished second.

Behind Andy the success of the season has been Clive Skingley whose 8th place over the season is the best yet by an Essex cadet.

But here a huge gap in our potential strength, viewed from last year, was brought about by injuries and resignations, P. Davies and L. Britt, last year's numbers 2 and 3, leaving the Force and D. Dutton spending most of the winter injured.

P. Blois also suffered from a back strain in the second half of the season but took 18th overall.

Relay times

In the last race, the City of London Police relay, Andy Down put up the teams fastest leg, 17.16. Other times were: G. Matthews 19.46; C. Skingley 20.00; K. Nowell 20.05; N. Faulkner 20.33; L. Berry 20.40; T. Williams 20.41; P. Blois 21.07. Team times were 'A' team 77.40, 'B' team 82.55, for the 12 miles course.

Essex scorers in the 1973-74 overall table.

3. A. Down 294; 8. C. Skingley 246; 18. P. Blois 201; 21. G. Matthews 194; 22. K. Nowell 190; 29. M. Faulkner 141; 32. A. King 128; 33. T. Williams 124; 34. L. Berry 123; 37. M. Fairweather 108; 44. D. Dutton 85; 55. M. Mattack 49; 78. J. Carpenter 26; 83. P. Gamman 23; 84. M. Sear 22; 90. W. Spooner 21; 91. M. Fayle 20; 96. M. Barlow 19; 101. L. Austin 18; 102. M. Eldred 17; 112. M. Cook 15; 116. K. Fitzjohn 14; 120. N. Draper 12; 124. T. Yarham 11; 126. J. Topolewski 10;

128. J. Turrell 10; 135. S. Clarke 49; 138. I. Brown 4; 142. N. Howe 3; 143. T. Crow 2; 145. A. Masson 1.

Teams

1. Herts 1441; 2. Thames Valley 1317; 3. Sussex 1307; 4. Essex 1284; 5. Kent 1078; 6. City of London 947; 7. Surrey 656; 8. Hants 86.

Football

IN THE League Cup Essex Police have to replay at home against Benfleet. This resulted after the first game at Benfleet ended in a 1-1 draw. It was decided by the referee that extra time should not be played because of the terrible weather conditions. The game itself was an entertaining match with both sides playing some great football despite the conditions. Essex took the lead through Gamman just before half time but this was later erased when Benfleet scored in the second half.

Essex Police have now slipped down to third place in the league after being at the top for so long. There was a chance that Essex could catch Brentwood but this seems to have disappeared now after losing to Runwell away from home by the only goal of the game.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Brentwood	23	15	6	2	66	23	36
Benfleet	20	13	6	1	47	18	32
Essex Police	24	13	4	7	51	26	30
Herongate	26	11	7	8	54	41	29
Sawbridgeworth	23	11	4	8	51	32	26
Bowers	23	11	4	8	48	35	26
Burnham	23	10	6	7	38	35	26
Runwell	22	10	3	9	41	26	23
Writtle	22	9	5	8	47	33	23
E.C.C.	24	7	9	8	49	47	23
Old Chelmsfordians	18	8	6	4	42	27	22
Collier Row	23	8	5	10	43	35	21
Ongar	21	7	5	9	38	41	19
Chadwell Heath	10	8	1	1	27	11	17
Stortford Swifts	25	4	5	16	25	66	13
Dunmow	26	2	4	20	30	104	8
Marconi	25	1	2	22	16	113	4

— and attends a farewell social

SUPT. Helen Welburn and other members of the Force were guests of the Southend Division's joint sports club last week at a farewell gathering to mark Miss Welburn's departure for Cheshire. In making a presentation on behalf of policewomen and cadets the Chief made the understatement of the year, saying that Supt. Welburn, in her four years in Essex had revitalised the Women Police Department. Replying

the lady said that she "Couldn't have done anything without the support of the Chief Constable and without the loyal support of all my girls." Chief Supt. Bonfield made a presentation on behalf of the Southend Club, Miss Welburn stood everyone a drink, and all made slightly sad farewells. She took up her appointment as Supt. in charge of Women Police in Cheshire on April 1, the move coming about for family reasons.

and hours and remuneration will be negotiated. Write to — Mr. J. S. Cotgrove, 190 Shoebury Road, Southend-on-Sea. This is a chance for someone whose eyes are turned towards the Bisley Championships? On reading "Edview" of the March issue as to the solitary typewriter at Police Headquarters, and correspondence column, I venture to reflect upon the march of time up to 1928 when I first put foot in the "Holy of Holies". We boasted of four typewriters at Headquarters and, of course, one at each of the Divisional and Sub-Divisional Headquarters. In those days correspondence was dealt with immediately — the day of receipt. Oh, no! We were not waiting for the "stuff" to arrive — there seemed plenty of paper even in those days. But the policy laid down, and I thoroughly recommend it, correspondence received was dealt with the same day. Of course tea breaks of 40 mins. each day were unheard of, but I would not deny we found time for a crafty "spit and draw" in the cellar whilst stoking the furnace and chopping wood (known as extraneous duties) but one dared not be absent too long — or else. — Happy Days!

National Association of Retired Police Officers by Bert Brinkley

THE Committee of the Chelmsford Branch met on March 2 and a full agenda was discussed. The date of the Annual General Meeting was fixed for Saturday, May 18, at 10.30 a.m. in the Staff Canteen, Police Headquarters. Coffee and biscuits will be available from 1000 hours. The Agendas are being sent out with the next quarterly bulletins. Our numbers attending are usually between 50 and 60 but with increased membership it is expected that many more will make an effort to attend. The guest speakers invited and who have expressed pleasure in attending are The Deputy Chief Constable (J. Duke, Esq.) and Sergeant Stan Smith, Secretary, J.B.B. Police Federation. The talks given by our guests have been very much appreciated in the past and we look forward once again to being "brought up to date" with happenings within the Force. This is the occasion when new blood can offer themselves for the various offices and thus assist the Association in its untiring efforts for the welfare of all pensioners.

Whilst on this question, I have been invited to attend an open meeting of the Police Federation on March 18 when various members of the Joint Central Committee will be present. The result of this meeting, insofar as pensioners are concerned, will no doubt be included in Sergeant Smith's address to our A.G.M.

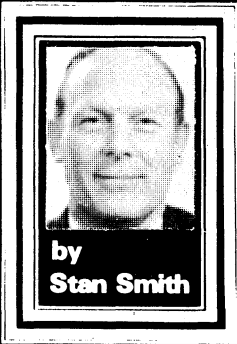
I have also been asked to give a talk on N.A.R.P.O. to Students attending a pre-retirement Course at Head Quarters on April 9. I hope I make a good salesman for the more members we can enrol the better for the Association.

The social gathering of the Branch has been arranged for Saturday, September 21, 1974, in the Staff Canteen, Police Headquarters. The Buffet arrangements will be on similar lines as last year and it is hoped to keep the price for food, etc., to around 50 pence per head. This is advance information but invitations will be sent out during July/August and the Committee hopes the function will be well supported. The Deputy Chief Constable and Mrs. Duke are being invited, also Sergeant Stan Smith and the Welfare Officer, Sergeant Ed. Easlea. Sergeant Easlea puts in a lot of hard work, including some considerable amount of travelling, on behalf of all pensioners and widows and this will be a golden opportunity to meet him and maybe persuade him to say a few words regarding his activities on behalf of the pensioners in general.

I have been asked to include in our column, if possible, a vacancy which has arisen in the Writtle area:

A part-time warden or gamekeeper is needed for a private shoot within easy reach of Chelmsford. A cottage is provided

Federation Notes



The tragic deaths of two young members of the Force have shocked all members and our sympathies go out to the relatives and friends of these colleagues, Bob Stanford was only 27 years of age and died in hospital at Westcliff following a fairly long period of illness, and Leslie Beet was only just eighteen when she was drowned in a canoe accident at Chelmsford, whilst under supervised activity. Our thoughts should also go out to Pc Larry Piper, her instructor, who is naturally very deeply shocked over this incident.

Force Open Meeting

Some three hundred members attended the Open Meeting at Police Headquarters on 18 March and on behalf of the Joint Branch Board I would like to thank them for their interest. It was a lively affair and this is how it should be. In order to make sure that your representatives are keeping their noses to the grindstone a healthy discussion is welcomed, for as Napoleon once said: "Not to advance is to retreat", and we must keep looking round the corner towards better things if we are to keep pace with life. I have heard some criticism of the actions of some members but I think that they are perfectly entitled to stress in any manner they think fit their serious concern over issues affecting them — this is what these Meetings are all about. I have already received letters from some of the invited guests who have congratulated the Force on a very entertaining Meeting with the great interest shown. I can assure you

a beautiful job done on his bugle. It appears that he had trouble using it. Not for smelling out trouble or any other way helpful to the job but extracting air from the great outdoors when he was mobile on his bike. (Which isn't very often). The doc removed five sticks of makeup and three scores of the show South Pacific and all seems to be O.K. now and he has changed colour and lives. Not to be outdone though, he delays his return to bikes in case any nasties manage to fly up his bugle. (That includes the Bird of Paradise). Therefore 90K sits all forlorn in the shed waiting for its next chain stretching ceremony, i.e. . . . The taking of all roundabouts in top at 30 mph. I am sure that we all join together and wish Larynx a speedy return to the machine. As a sort of round-up of the mob, sightings were made of him . . . Mad Mitch, riding in an Easterly direction along the A.12 at Chelmsford the other day on a Triumph. What's up with the crop sprayer son? Also I think it was our old friend 'Old Shortie' Lay seen the Saturday just gone standing alongside a machine in motor cycle rig. Nice one lad, you looked lovely. The 'Chain Eater' was sighted being ridden by our old mate Pat-Rick O-Hell-I've-lost-mecap-bad-Keefe and furiously along the Brentwood by-pass after a naughty motorist who instantly became another statistic in the speeding league.

All has been too quiet in the Southend area of late. What's up, lads, it's not like you? Harlow, of course, display a full team of nuts ready and able to ride to a system. One was located escorting an abnormal load on the A.414 towards our patch. The look on his face was fantastic when I rode straight by. He must have thought that I wasn't the bloke he was to hand it to. But fun over I returned and took it and for my efforts was left by my mate in a cloud of piston

that from my experience in attending such meetings held by other Forces that few are as well supported and have such a lively content.

The most contentious subject was, as expected, the question of C.I.D. overtime. Their representatives can have no doubt as to the feelings of members of this Department and I personally hope that the interest shown will result in some positive request for the Board to take some action on their behalf. The Joint Branch Board will welcome sensible suggestions put through the proper channels and I was a little disappointed that no concrete proposal was put to the platform as to a course of action which should be pursued on their behalf. Despite repeated information published in various sources there seemed to be a serious lack of awareness of the situation and I hope that for the third time my suggestion that a Liaison Committee meeting be held by members of the C.I.D. will come about. If members of this Department wish this Board to press for a change in declared policy then they must tell us what they want done. Up to now your Board have not had one solid proposal on this subject although the problems of the C.I.D. have been discussed on numerous occasions. There is quite a divergence of views on what should be done to ease the situation and a meeting at which all views can be expressed would be the first step in formulating a Force policy. The matter is rather urgent if any positive action is to be taken at national level as there are only eight weeks left before Motions to be accepted for Conference and prior to this deadline there has to be correspondence with the Joint Central Committee.

Compensatory grant

I have heard from one or two sources that several members are of the opinion that rent allowance will be paid in full free of tax with effect from 1 April this year. This is not the case. Although your Board took this matter to Conference and the principle was carried, negotiations broke down following discussions with the Inland Revenue who indicated that there would have to be individual monthly calculations for each officer concerned if this policy were to be adopted. This was too much for the Official Side who shied away from the work involved. It would seem as though we were looking into a crystal ball because one of the reasons we pressed this change was that many young members could not afford to pay high mortgages for the first year before they received their compensatory grant in the Spring. How more serious is this problem at the moment with a very high rate of interest to be paid? The second important problem, that of getting back all the income tax which has been paid during one's service, has now been put right and an equalising payment will now be made at the end of service which will put this right.

Last year we were paid the compensatory grant in April. I hear that this early payment may be difficult to achieve this year because of the tremendous amount of work to be done on the computer to change the payrolls around to accommodate the change of control due to the new reorganisation of Local Authorities. A firm decision on this will not be obtained until the day before publication of this newspaper, but every attempt will be made by the staff concerned to pay the grant in the next pay cheque.

Refreshment vehicle

There has been some criticism of the meals served in the Mobile Canteen during the recent troubles at Colchester. Whatever organisational mishaps there might have been the great majority of officers affected have expressed their great admiration for the way in which Mrs. Hehn, the Canteen Manageress, has worked to give members the best possible service she could under the circumstances.

scale. Two of our chaps were dispatched to the Essex University for duty there but, I have heard nothing from them as yet and undoubtedly their stories will reach you in good time.

Also there have been mutterings about future meetings for motorcyclists. Well, naturally I am not one to say no to beer and all being well a meeting would be in order mind-April to mid-May depending on how quickly it can be arranged. There are numerous matters that you have spoken to me about that require attention and this will be dealt with S.A.P.



AT BASILDON they don't believe in just remarking how well something has been done on their behalf — they do something about it. This time they said it with flowers. After their Support Unit got back from Colchester where, during the University bother, they were fed by Mrs. Hehn in the mobile canteen, they had dined so well that they all chipped in for a bouquet. Our picture shows Mrs. Hehn, H.Q. canteen manageress, after the flowers arrived.

Bob Stanford: obituary

IT IS WITH great regret that The Law announces the death of Constable Bob Stanford from Shoebury.

A single man who lived with his parents Bob can best be described as a man who enjoyed life.

He was well liked by his colleagues and got on well with people.

Bob has, for a considerable period of time, suffered from cancer and has put up with a great deal of pain with fortitude and patience.

The funeral was held at St Andrew's Church, Shoeburyness, on Thursday 14th March and was attended by officers from the Southend Division.

Our condolences go to Mr and Mrs Stanford, Bob's parents, in their bereavement.

I am sure that they would like me to publicly thank her and her staff for their efforts.

Motor car allowance

The increases in petrol prices have caused problems concerning this allowance and I can assure members that every effort will be made to get the allowance updated to keep pace. An increase will shortly be published to take account of the increase in March and a further increase to take account of the introduction of V.A.T. on petrol will be pressed for

immediately. These increases take a little while to come through but at least they will be retrospective.

General matters

We still await the result of the Arbitration in respect of overtime payment for Chief Inspectors and Inspectors of the Uniform Branch. I adhere to the adage that "no news is good news" but I must admit that this one worries me just a little.

An investigation is being carried out to see if a set rate for Instructors in the Police Service can be arrived at.

Grays I.P.A. invade German twin town

By Dave Taylor

REPORTS that West German police officers were defecting to the East in large numbers rather than face an invitation to visit the Thurrock area of Essex were found to be untrue when the group extending the invitation arrived in the fatherland!

The group, members of the International Police Association (Grays Section) visited Rheydt on March 16 armed with an invitation for the local IPA to return to Grays later this year. Rheydt is the twin-town of Thurrock and our IPA entering into the spirit of the affair had decided to organise a programme of events for West German police stationed there.

The reception accorded to the visitors was all that one has come to expect from the West German IPA members. The hosts, led by Richard Sempf of the Police Recruiting Office, after meeting the Grays party at the central police station guided them through a magnificent lunch, shopping expedition in nearby Munchen Gladbach, a visit to the British Forces HQ at Rheindalen, coffee at private homes and what can only be termed a social discussion during the evening in the "Bier Keller" of "Herbert", probably the most famous IPA member in West Germany, and already known to many Essex Officers. At the end of

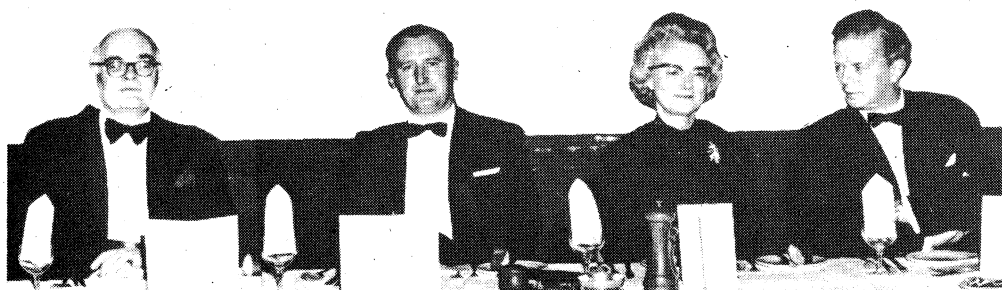
the evening it was agreed that the Rheydt section would visit Grays next year — the 25th anniversary of the founding of the IPA.

The group, consisting of Chief Inspectors G Crux and T Watson, Inspector R Taylor, Sergeants K Chilvers, P Spencely and M Cook and Constable A Brymer was representative of all Sub-Divisions of the Grays Division.

By using the IPA flat at Groesbeek, Nijmegen, Holland as a base and a minibus as transport, the tourists were able to combine the Rheydt enterprise with a flying visit to other parts of the continent. Contacts were made with the Antwerp IPA Section which resulted in a guided tour of the city and the group attended a meeting and social evening held by the Nijmegen section during which M Noys, President of the local IPA, was presented with the usual helmet on behalf of our Force. Other areas visited included Arnhem, and van der Valk territory in Amsterdam. That such a high mileage was possible during this brief visit was due, of course, to the exceptional road network of Germany and the Low Countries. A marked contrast indeed to our own grubby and dangerous A.13.

A very enjoyable visit and all due to Ken Chilvers who did all the work.

Detectives miss their dinner



THE CID annual dinner and dance took place at Chelmsford's Chancellor Hall on March 21, when guests included the Chief and Mrs. Nightingale, His Honour Judge Peter Greenwood and Mr. John Leonard, Q.C., and his wife. Our picture shows from left Judge Greenwood, Det. Ch. Supt. White, Mrs. White and Mr. Leonard. The dinner brought the usual cry from organiser George Harris, "Oh for more detectives to attend."

Miss Hessey top again but only 7% pass

SERGEANT PAT HESSEY does it again! After topping the passlist in the constable to sergeant examination a couple of years back she has now gained top marks in the exam to inspector.

Following the new trend — there was only an 8 per cent pass in this year's sergeants' exam — the pass rate to inspector slumped to 7 per cent. This may have been brought about by the new arrangements by which the pass mark is higher but candidates who fail only one paper may resit that paper alone next year.

Ten candidates fell into

this category in this year's inspector examination. Nearly all failed the general police duties paper.

Of the lucky seven who cleared the hurdle Pat Hessey was joined by colleague Wps Joan Murphy of Basildon Division. Two others are already sergeants Ds T Jones, Chelmsford and Ps M Abraham, Grays.

For the remainder there will be no immediate effect besides having got the exam over and done with because they are still constables: T. Fisher, Southend West; J. Rowe, Harlow and M. Lockwood also Harlow.

Notoriously undermanned

AT THE FINAL meeting of the Joint Police Authority last month the Chief reported that the Force, like others in the Home Counties, was "notoriously undermanned."

Good job opportunities in other fields and the lure of the Metropolitan Police were two causes of this said Mr. Nightingale.

In Essex the police establishment, 2,340, allows one constable per 563 of population, while the average for England and Wales is 495.

THE OLD LADY RETIRES



THIS OLD lady of the highways, 'Winnie the Wireless' is, at last, to be pensioned off.

First registered in 1946 the Ford motor van came into the possession of the Police in 1969. It had previously been used by the Civil Defence as a wireless communications vehicle and was bought by the police 'at a modest price'.

Its interior contains some of the most sophisticated radio equipment on the market,

including V.H.F. and U.H.F. frequencies, teleprinters and two telephone connections to the G.P.O.

It has been at the scene of murders, bank raids, air crashes and traffic jams, and has seen more major police duties than most police officers.

Supt. Malcolm Moore of Communications Department told the press, "The van has acted as a control room for operations all over the county

at anything from the Essex Show to air crashes.

But now it is too small — carrying a crew of up to four — and it is practically impossible to get spare parts for it.

It was off the road for four days at one time, just because we couldn't get windscreen wipers for it."

The vehicle will be replaced by a Bedford vehicle which will have a custom built body housing the radio equipment.

It turned out he was pleading guilty

ALL in a day's work at the Chelmsford Courts office are letters from defendants pleading guilty. But the letter reproduced below — not immune from the Admin stamp — was a little different. As Insp. Ken Adams, prosecutions inspector remarks: "A blessing we have Mr. Cecil Cheng at the CPS."

陈君 -

英政府之法律事务中,本人以

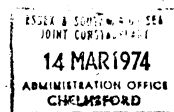
罪,但也是完全错,对方也有错也。

望法官轻判我要,以后本人驾车更加

小心。顺祝

此致

敬礼



陈君 T.K. Wang

Father goes to Eynsham — about 40 years too late

NEARLY FORTY YEARS in the job and never been to Eynsham. It sounds a bit far fetched but this was the way things stood with the Father of the Force, Chief Inspector Doug Andrews, until this month.

This was put right when he attended the Regional Training Centre as the representative of the Chief Constable at the passing out parade of Course No. 1/74.

Having arrived at the Centre Mr. Andrews was met by the Commandant and showed around the premises, being able to see how recruits are now trained.

He was later introduced to Mr. R. H. Smith, Q.P.M. the Assistant Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police, whom he last met on a Sergeant's Course in December of 1947. He also met the inspecting officer, Mr. Bright and had lunch with them.

Later he met the Essex contingent of recruits and had a chat with them.

On the actual passing out parade he stood alongside the saluting base and was later introduced to the parents of those passing out.

Mr. Andrews says that the present system of training is a far cry from his which took place when 27 recruits sat round a billiards table reading page after page of Moriarty some 39 years ago.

Gift marks 39 years in the Specials



To mark 37 years as a Special, Vic Saines of Witham, who recently retired as Special Inspector, receives a memento of binoculars presented on behalf of his colleagues by Commander M. Giller.



Latest batch of recruits all go to Harlow and Basildon

THE RECRUITING and Training Department proudly present their latest models of Thief Takers and Traffic Regulators, fully guaranteed for two years, tried and tested at their research department at Eynsham.

Basildon and Harlow Divisions will benefit from the effort and time gone into training and testing these models although four of these have been through the Cadet School production line as well as being remodelled by the Training Department.

Recruits' names and destinations are: Jane Pattinson, Harlow; Mick Beale, Harlow; Bob Lynch, Basildon; Nic Waltham, Harlow; Julian 'Bill' Boady, Basildon; John Smith, Basildon; Mark Dorman, Harlow; Alan Smith, Basildon; John 'Everest' Hunt, Harlow; John Williams, Basildon; 'Bones' Northcott, Basildon, and Dick Steane, Basildon.