POLICEWOMEN CARRY OFF ‘BRIGHT YOUNG COPPER’ CUPS

BOTH the Bennett Trophy, which goes to the best probationer of the year, and the Peel Trophy, awarded to the candidate gaining the highest marks in the promotion examination to sergeant, (see story on page 8), have been won by women constables.

The only girl in the Bennett Trophy and she has to go and win it. Marion Windebank, 23 years, from Leigh Sub Division turned up at Headquarters and was “rather pleased” to find that she had no other female competition.
She led the field home, being five points ahead of her nearest rival, P.c. Mervyn Pickard from Colchester.
Marion, who joined the Force as a result of talking to her brother-in-law, D.c. Mark Hughes, said after the competition, “I can’t believe it. I keep thinking someone will come and tell me that there has been a mistake in the marking.”

PICTURED in order of the final results, from front to rear, Marion Windebank, Mervyn Pickard, Roger Casternole, Graham Butler, Ian Mills, Brian Jones, Bill Chapman, Martin Smith and Phil Bridges, (equal eighth) and John English.

Children’s fete helps charity fund

ORGANISING a garden fete is child’s play. Not true, but you don’t have to be grown up to run a fete. Karen and John Squirrel, children of P.c. Brian Squirrel of H.Q. Traffic, held a “mini fete” in the garden of their Boreham home in August. Selling articles they had made or which had been given to them, the children raised £11, which they decided to present to the Essex Police Benevolent Fund. And last month they were both entertained at H.Q. by Mr. H. Taylor ACC (A), who received the cheque from them on behalf of the Fund.

WALKERS WIN NATIONAL TITLES

Great achievement fully reported on page 6

WORK STARTS ON NEW HQ

IT’S ON the way! The smart new headquarters complex, an artist’s impression of which is shown below, may become a reality in a year or two or three, but first the old buildings presently occupying the site have to be cleared away.
Our picture shows the old Chief Constable’s garage (it’s all a matter of getting the words in the right order) above which Bill Austin formerly presided over the operations of the Finance Office, going under the hammer early last month.
Like all good financiers, Bill and his team got out just in time moving to what used to be the conference room, in what not so long ago was the new block at H.Q. How time passes.

Cash collecting problem

IT IS one thing to hold a sponsored walk but quite another to collect all the money promised, as Chief Inspector Lorna Brooks has been finding out all summer.
In a recent circular letter Miss Brooks thanks “all who took part not only for your work on the day but also for the much harder task of collecting all the promised money.” Four hours walking meant four months to collect the cash.
Now it is all in, all £440.61, an excellent effort on the policewomen’s part. The cash was used to finance the 1974 pensioners garden party at Headquarters.

Next year
But having taken care of the party almost half, £213.22, was left over. The Law is offering no odds on another party next year but any decision to hold a party is easier to make if the money to cover costs has been raised already.
Edievan

Vitality the cure

WE HAVE a certainty with the letter writer, most welcome. They have already made up their minds.

"AUTHORITY WILL HAVE TO decide," muttered, rather than thundered, Sgt. Les Male, from the rostrum at the Federation Conference. He was Didn’t, yet again, any sort of police service, it wants, or ‘whether it wants one at all’… some other, emotive turn of phrase. The trouble is that authority has already made up its mind. It wants the police service it already has, and there are no fritters away the money which more militant organisations would have spent, on less desirable, but more eye-catching criers.

They have already made up their minds.

4th November 1974

Chinese nosh

SOME MERRIMENT has been caused by the editorial office recently at the thought of policemen on courses eating out as the Chinese. One of the catering staff problems at Headquarters. But one thought which struck us was that if it is convenient for the Chinese to feed their guests, it would sound economies to have a police canteen at all. The job could go on contract. The same principle might also apply to the firing range, which is probably the Force newspaper.

More male chauvinism

THE SIGHT of policemen walking off both the police lines at Buckingham Palace and shaking into every male heart. It is almost as if the men really wanted women to be as equal than they. But quantities can be decided, right. But quantities can be decided, right. Right. Right. Right.

Enquiry Line

Day Six.
My daughter, who lives in El Paso, Texas, has sent me the enclosed letter from her local paper.

Baton ready, poised, ready for a blast-off as the curtain goes up. Essex Police Band pictured at the Clacton charity concert.

CHRISTIAN POLICE ASSOCIATION ESSEX BRANCH

There will be a meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Lewis, 'Redhills', North End, On, Sea at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, November 29, 1974. Anyone who would like to attend will be welcome.

Enquiry Line

I wonder what prompted an El Paso, Texas, letter writer to say, "Why is there always a man in the world? Is there a chance here of a woman ever becoming a police officer in that area? A job for Inspector?"

I thought you might be interested.

NORMAN J. CRUSSEY.
Liskeard.

Welshman's
tales

THE five-month waiting period, as now, be abolished. It would seem that the situation in the police service is changing, with the appointment of a Paymaster General to calculate the increase in police pay. The arithmetical decisions to the police allowances are even more difficult. Although I find this argument beyond the pay of the newspaper, the increase in cost is caused for living for the review period has long been discussed. We have no trade union and cannot resort to industrial action. We have no National Police Officers Committee in conjunction with the police, and can we and can we and can we support them in their efforts for earnings in the light of the Joint Review. The Enquiry Line on which Branches and individual members of the branch to whom the campaign includes the following:

They have already made up their minds.

The quarterly bulletins have not arrived as members will already wait a while longer for news of the delays. The Advertiser and the Annual Conference. However, it seems clear that the increase in Public Service pensions will be in the region of 16%. This figure was quoted some time ago and it reads "Public Service" which is the organ of NALGO that this figure is not going to rise again by an amount as this time last year.

Now that the tumbling and shunting of the General Election is coming thick and fast, taking some of the promises in the various campaigns:

We read of two threshold agreements of 80 pence being disputed over the weight of the argument of the whole of the Public Service Pensions Council for Public Service pensions to be reviewed every six months and that

Who’s on

The footnotes Ellinor and her two children have moved to the "amenities" and are COURSE — everybody seems to be getting on them. Les Elkingon, "Long John" Paisley, Frank Marshall, to name but a few.

I saw "HIM" the other day, thrusting a large thing full of wine. I’m told that Stewy are still buying white touch paint to cover up his boot marks — hasn’t they told him — it’s started the other way.

News has been very short from around the Subs. The visit to Luton is all arranged now for November. By the time The Law Comes out the coach should be fully booked. We leave Headquarters at 9.15 a.m. ( electric and after our visit to the "sofa" drinks establishment we should return about 1.00 a.m. ( latest)

It has rained so that Norris are running short of spares and are we.

Getting to, according to sources, two new buildings, more news will be forthcoming next month.

A new look "Gay Glitter's" spark has been developed a growth around his face. He says it’s because his face is growing. Without any news I’d afraid the columns will have to be cut short. The words of our last consultant are Redside and the safety system.
Mountain exercise hit by atrocious weather

IT WAS hard luck on North Wales Police that what could have been a useful mountain exercise with a competitive flavour turned into a rescue operation with police on the wrong end — being rescued.

Some of the cadet teams taking part had spent many days training over the ground on which the contest was held and the fact that some of these teams could not complete the exercise perhaps says more about the instructors than the trainees.

Essex cadets took part and their impressions make up this account.

When it was first suggested that an Essex Cadet team should participate, they were given the chance to take a second holiday. Eventually after much planning two Essex teams led by P.C. Larry Piper left in fine style to start their seven-hour journey to Snowdonia. This competition is a new innovation in the hill walking world and is restricted to members of Police Cadet Forces. They are required to cover a course containing seven of the well-known peaks in Snowdonia, following a set line of travel. Each team had to complete this course in two days and using the day to cover each section.

Having set out on the first day they had their first shock when they found that they were required to traverse a fast-flowing river. Using a rope the teams waded knee deep across the first obstacle of a misty marsh. However, it was not a pleasant way to start the day.

The path led them up and down steep ridges, the terrain was track with undergrowth and very rocky in places.

These conditions were not helped by the mist and rain which came down without warning.

After five-and-a-half hours walking the teams returned to base camp feeling that this would be no holiday after all.

The second day’s training site was to climb Snowdon which appeared from the map to be much easier than it actually was. The climb started at 6 a.m. and by the time the wind was blowing more fiercely than the day before and the path was waterlogged.

After climbing for a while the teams reached the vertical, 1,000 ft. climb with loose rocks strewn all over the path.

Unfortunately during the ascent of the stretch one of the cadets, PC Wally Watkins, Cadet Wayne Spooner, badly bruising his arm and leg. However, carrying out the policy of the Essex Cadets they continued to climb, removing their own debris from the hills, Wayne

Going too far?

Mary leaves Headquarters C.I.D.

AFTER nine years at Headquarters as a clerk and typist with the CID Mrs. Mary O’Hara left last month to begin a new career in baby care. Pictured with Chief Superintendent L. White, who had presented her with an electric clock, a gift of her colleagues, are Mary and husband David, who also works at HQ as a photographer.

His cure for the flu — vitamin pills

The onslaught of winter in the form of flu will soon be with us and as in past years flu jabs will be available for officers of the Force, at a cost to the County of £2.50 each.

The Chief told the police authority that he fully recommended the vaccination scheme.

This information was published in a Chelmsford newspaper recently and provoked a reply from a reader to the effect that those officers who have a flu jab will still go on “sneezing, spitting and coughing”. The reader continued: “I have been taking vitamin pills, ‘one tablet at this time, but try to get the yellow ACD vitamin pills, obtainable at any chemist, only vitamins. The common cold should be made a criminal offence.”

Any correspondence on this matter should not be addressed to the Editor of The Law, but to the Editor, Essex Chronicle, Wivenhoe, Chelmsford.
Give 'em a horse to moon over...

NO. WE DO NOT HAVE women in the Mounted Section. Cadet Yvonne Fidler pictured above with friend at Rayleigh Police Station, is just making sure that the pony, a straying, deposited as found property at Rayleigh, is comfortable. (Pic by Evening Echo).

NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED — a short story by Tom

THE court had risen early. The faded sign of the Honest Mason swung creaking in the rain. Below, conversation ran its time-honoured course on the pathologically credulity of the magisterial mind and the vanity of human hopes.

Cheer up, said the ancient newly called to the bar. (Thank you, your silver beard never fail. Trust me.) As I was saying... In my day, all these little jocks never come to court. Deal with the spot. We are copper, not clarks. When they come the acid, one up the 'corner saves a deal of typing'. You 'd laugh.

Take Jeremiah Woodhouse. There was a man-and-a-half in the tight corner. Quick as a cat, cool as a cowcutter. Come the war, they shoved 'em in the ridiculous. Lucky to get him. One day, he was sent on 'is first to arrest a deserter — a dangerous brawler — and found 'im lying in a tenement. 'You're a game chicken,' he says. 'They allus send three bobbies to take me in.'

They both smile, weighing each other up. 'No hard feelings,' says Jerry softly, extending 'is bobby palm. 'Shake like an' lemon before hostilities.' Their hands touched. Jeremiah whips him into a full-rotation and marches 'im squaring back to barracks.

Big chap? No, bout my stamp. Trim and dapper. Very quiet and gentle. 'I'll upset him, was Jeremiah. He was brung up at Jimmy Wild's boxing academy down the Rhondda. Dick Lucey would've loved him. Sir Jonathan couldn't 'ave used 'im. If he'd gone to college he might've bin an Assistent Commissioner. Huh, huh. He was stocky, a bit bow-legged, with a tin ear, an ingrowing toenail and his 'front on the back of his hand. (Your calf, son.)

After I was invalided out with a — nervous exhaustion, I kept the Magic Circle on the arterial road. We had lots of trouble with East Enders on beacon. One day a chamberstick pulled up loaded with tipsy dockers and some rough old crum — — — —, woman. I'd smell much as strong as an Army sock. I send my boy for Jeremiah.

Rupert found him throwing corn to the landman's kids behind the Turfing Sailor. He was always kind to those crum. 'Ead of sending a load-bearer for a pose of pannen, he knocked 'em in. 'I'm done to death,' says he, holding his arm around the world. 'This chap. V, verse XXI.' He'd bin converted a couple years before, when a Methodism mission cassock broke down on 'is beat. 'The verse cast a shoe. It stopped its permission.

By the time he'd ambled up, smart as paint, wheeling 'is bike, the Cockney had nearly torn the place apart. He kep' cool when they danced round 'im in a circle. He never said a word save as a war bashy "Owse yer mucker's corn big, copper? Swallin' g'arn dales?" But then a fat chap 'ad the misfortune to stop on 'is ingrowing toenail.

After that, several things happened.

Jerry lets out a roar like a rogue elephant to torment. I never heard the like. He picks up the chap in a judo lock and tosses him over the churchyard wall. Lucky the armpit's compost 'lap broke 'is fall. Then another chap came for 'im like a bell at a butcher. Jerry 'made a back for him and 'cane a porter in the duck-pond opposite. They was dray drivers, though. A big fellow 'up behind 'im with
IN LAST month’s Law, Keith Reveill was featured in his leading role at Hullbridge in the ‘cross river’ tug of war.

This month Keith has changed his character. As one local paper said, “During the day Keith is a police sergeant stationed at South Benfleet. But at night he blackens his face, and his proper place is on the deck of the Vigilant and the Vixen of the Thames Estuary area.”

So shortly we should be seeing the new addition to the fleet, in its coating of Oxford blue paint on the hull, white deck and superstructure and grey cockpit, patrolling as far afield as Harwich and Halberd.

The story starts driving off ‘til Constable Woodbine steps into a cab and punches ‘Wait for the walkin’ round, driver!’

When they’d drawn off he repeated this. ‘Will do for the law, Claude,’ he says to me. ‘I’ve put him in the trap to inspect the damage and give the report. He’s a sly one, Jack. He’ll find his way to the yard. He’s a smooth, they must’ve been afraid of us, and they’ve put a new are in the street-corner boys on the demon drink. Their eyes are as round as pebbles. The Weekly Waffle ran a picture of the trap of fertilizer, but the police wasn’t available for comment.

‘What’s this obstructing the view?’, says Jack. ‘Yes, and there was a brand new barrel of beer beside the keg. I called you to witness, Claude,’ he says very solemnly, ‘that there’s no name and address thereon. Scarey, you boys.

They moved off sharpish, but watched from a safe distance. They t’d a clear view of Jerry’s broad beam when he crouched over the barrel and sat in it. But there didn’t raise a catapult. He told me to slow down and careful to the

character, puts on a false mustache, and becomes Abo Hansen, Scheik of the Robbers.

Sounds like one of those practical demonstrations at Eyesh.Grattain, but this double life is just an act.

The villain Keith portrays in Westcliff Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society’s latest production, ‘Chin Chow.

With only one year as a member of the society Keith has risen rapidly in their ranks starting with a chorus part in White Horse Inn and a small part as one of the vagabonds.

Keith said: ‘Perhaps they think I’ve got that kind of face. It’s those bit of a change from work. They don’t say much about it at the station but I’ve managed to drag some of them along to see the play. He hopes that his next leading role will be that of an Inspector of Police, having obtained a “yes” some eighteen months ago.

The law enforces the law...
ESSEX POLICE WALKERS carried off their first national title on October 19 when they defeated the Association national juniors, youths and boys championships were staged at Police Headquarters, Chelmsford. In the second race of the afternoon Mike Dunton, one of the favourites to win the youth title, was soon out ahead in a group of three, including his great rival G. Morris, Seyring A.C., and it was not until the last mile that it became a straight fight, Dunton-Morris.

On the last of the five laps, making up the three miles distance, Morris made his effort and got away five yards and indeed, turning into the finishing straight with only 30 yards to walk he was still ahead.

But Dunton, who had spent the whole race in the right place — just behind the leader — did it right again and blasted right through the line to win, literally, by inches from a surprised Morris who had relented on the line.

This adds to the track national youth title he won in the summer.

But this was no one-man band act because hard team training had turned two newcomers to the squad only last month into passable walkers. In fact, Mark Spellman was never far from the front and finished a creditable third.

Disqualified

It looked as if any thoughts of the title would go when Roy Shipton was pulled out by the judges under the new bent knee rule. But Barry Schulte, warned that every place counted, moved forward in the closing laps to 20th, and that was enough for gold medals by two points.

Third

The junior five miles was a fight between Met Police Cadets and Essex for the silver medals, Sheffield and Harriers being the undisputed favourites to win.

But again the judge took a hand, pulling out the Sheffield number one when he was 20th in the lead. They bagged the two leading Met Cadets also but thought this might have let Essex in, they were one place down, in fifth, their occasion, Dan Shipton being off form, and Mick Elden, although on the come back trail, well behind his best.

So through Met and Essex find at 27 points each, Met just had it by getting their third soon in faster than the Essex No. 3. But bronze medals meant that Essex Police have taken a team medal position in the last two or three consecutive years.

The men's title was started by the Chief Constable who also presented awards afterwards.

One might think that beside the late mentioned above the rest of the walking never might not be anything to write about. Not so! The month included a trip to Westerham, Holland, where a team of five found themselves among some stiff competition from Denmark, Germany and Holland.

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Netball team set to retain title

FEDERATION
Continued from Page 2

then it will get a full airing at Blackpool next year.

Force Ball

Some 260 persons attended the annual Force Ball held in aid of the Eastbourne branch of a former member of this Force, and from reports received, the year’s event was as good as the others. The popularity of this Ball created some problems in relation to the distribution of tickets as we have a maximum which we cannot exceed if we are to keep up the quality, and this meant that some late applicants for tickets were not able to attend. It speaks well for the future when one considers that dances came from as far afield as Stanmer Park and Somerset and from within the County itself from Clacton, Harlow, Grays and Southend.

A special mention must be given to Sergeant Ian Brotherton of Bournemouth, who, despite not being on the Committee, made significant contribution to the success of the evening.

Threshold Payments

A further 40th weekly is to be added to the present level of threshold payments, making a monthly payment of £3.92 and an annual figure of £47.04.

Handcuffs

In reply to our request for more of the ratchet pattern handcuffs to be made available to members, the Chief Constable has pointed out that this piece of equipment is now widely used and therefore the replacement programme is very costly. As such, he has asked all members to ensure that the ratchet type available in Stores

Paying a Reciprocal visit to the Grays and Tilbury area, Sergeant Major Arnold Nojil and his wife were guests of the Grays and Tilbury branch of the International Police Association’s second annual dinner-dance, held at Tilbury Community Centre dine on the evening of Thursday, 24 November.

Mr. Nojil is a member of the Dutch Police traffic division and his visit was in return for the one made by members of the Grays and Tilbury branch to Nijmegen earlier this year.

Other guests among the 200 diners were the Mayor of Thurrock, Councillor Mrs. Margaret Jones and her husband, Councillor Merlyn Jones, Chief Supdt. and Mrs. Alf Mitchell, Chief Inspector and Superintendant at the Branch who helped arrange the dinner.

Mr. Nojil returned the visit when he is a member of the Dutch Police traffic division and his visit was in return for the one made by members of the Grays and Tilbury branch to Nijmegen earlier this year.

With Cannon and Lithgow waiting in the goalmouth to pounce on the ball, Taylor gets his centre over past the point against Norfield.

Handicap

Two officers, Stephen Mason and Mark Hill, took top honours for the first time in Stephen’s case. A good month, though, when newcomers to the sport got their first taste of the game. Mason from the hour before, without trouble, and Fulia Foster showed that it is not just Dunton who can set records.

Results

International races, Leuven, 3rd October 1978


THE LAW, NOVEMBER 1978

Tax Relief — Socks

One member who was prepared to commit the branch had tax relief in respect of the provision of black socks for uniform duty. He approached his Member of Parliament and has received a letter from the Private Secretary to the Financial Secretary to the Treasury stating that this relief will be granted on the understanding that the socks would be of a quality that would not have been purchased except for the requirement to wear black socks with uniform.

Sergeant taken ill abroad

STG. Bill Stebbing, 43, of Sgt. Stewart stepped off the car at his hotel in Spain the day before he was due home. Within five minutes a doctor was on his side and in a quarter of an hour, he was off to hospital and back home by about six o’clock, he was told that hospital would be likely to stay for several weeks. Sgt. Stebbing, a Bill Stebbing stepped off the car at his hotel in Spain the day before he was due home...

CAUTIONARY TARY...

CHESS CLUB

THE FORMATION of the Essex Section of the Police Chess Club was considered at a meeting all those interested, to be held Headquartiers Bar, Chelmsford, next Wednesday evening. December 6th, 1978.

The aims of the Chess Club will be to play friendly matches against local and national clubs, to play chess within the county and surrounding district.

Mr. Ivor Smith, the Essex County Individual Champion, will be attending the meeting and will play simultaneous games against any members.

For further details contact Essex County Chess player, Mr. Law Fran at Headquarters Information Office.

STAMPS CLUB

THEIR second meeting will be held at Southend Police Station at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 28 November, 1978. New members are welcome.

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Sir Jonathan presents cup

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SIR JONATHAN PEEL made a welcome return to Headquarters to present W.P.C. Liz Falconer, of Traffic Division with his trophy for the person who obtains the highest mark in the promotion examination for Constables to Sergeant.

Liz, who worked with horses before joining the job, amassed a total of 196 marks in the last examination, was well supported at the presentation, with several of her senior officers present.

Recruits augment divisions

PICTURED left to right, standing under the tree of knowledge outside the Training Department at Headquarters are John Willman (Chelmsford); Ian Lander (Basildon); Brett Pearce (Chelmsford); Tony Mason (Chelmsford); Dave Sharpe (Grays); Dave Foklew (Chelmsford); Kay Melktjohn (Grays); Mike McSweeney (Basildon); Tim Turner (Harlow); Ted Toomey (Chelmsford); Norman Crabb (Chelmsford) and Steve Cast (Harlow).

The new recruits will have been at Divisions for their first two weeks by the time the paper reaches you but for the benefit of Divisional Training Officers we publish this picture. We know it takes you some time to find out who is who.

Only one face from the group who started is missing. Steve Coates who is posted to Chelmsford was sick when the photograph was taken. Perhaps it's all the rich food at the new Headquarters Dining Room?

FORMER ESSEX MEN IN AUCKLAND

EX-PATRIATE ex-policemen gather in New Zealand at the wedding of John Copas — he's the one with the moustache.

John went to New Zealand after some years in Bermuda, as did Clive Crossman, extreme right, and recently married Lorraine Smith of Howick, New Zealand.

All the four above, Dave Tate on left and Mick Tatham with haircut, are ex-Essex men living in the Auckland area as are Peter Yarham and his wife, who recently left Chelmsford.

Hoaxer nabbed

TELEPHONE exchange staff and police showed recently that in Chelmsford at least the latest form of the persistent hoaxer, can be caught.

By linking operators set aside to trace the source of calls, and police standing by with personal radio, warnings can go direct to patrolling cars without the delay of relaying through Headquarters.

In this way two youths were caught who later admitted 17 offences.

But the system relies on a heavy saturation by police when calls are expected an ideal job for Task Force — which in turn tends to mean that only when the situation gets very bad can the cure be justified.

Essex Police Mag healthy

AT THE LAST MEETING of the Essex Police Magazine Committee it was agreed that the sum made available for the Editor and Secretary to make payments for articles submitted be doubled to £25.

It was disappointing to hear from one divisional representative that he had in his division member of the Force who had considerable talent in writing and yet considered that it was not worth his while to put pen to paper for his Force Magazine.

The Secretary, Chief Supt. Challs, reported that the Magazine was financially healthy and after hearing of the financial state it was agreed that £200 be donated to the Essex Police Band, who are not so financially well off.

It was mentioned that Sjt. Smith, Federation Secretary, still had a large stock of cuff links bearing the old Force crest, bought out of Essex Police Magazines, and that they were not selling very well.

THE LAW H.Q. telephone extensions 216 or 236

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RESPLendent is the only word to describe P.C. Billy Bines in his brand new gear including helmet plate — he's a brand new P.C. anyway. The new plates are now coming into circulation and we publish this picture for the sake of all those in the sticks, because things do take time to filter down.

HE TOOK his chair to the party but nobody wanted to play. The Chief grabs a solitary moment at the Force Ball. The seat was a tombola prize. Report in Stan Smith's column, page 7.