



THE LAW

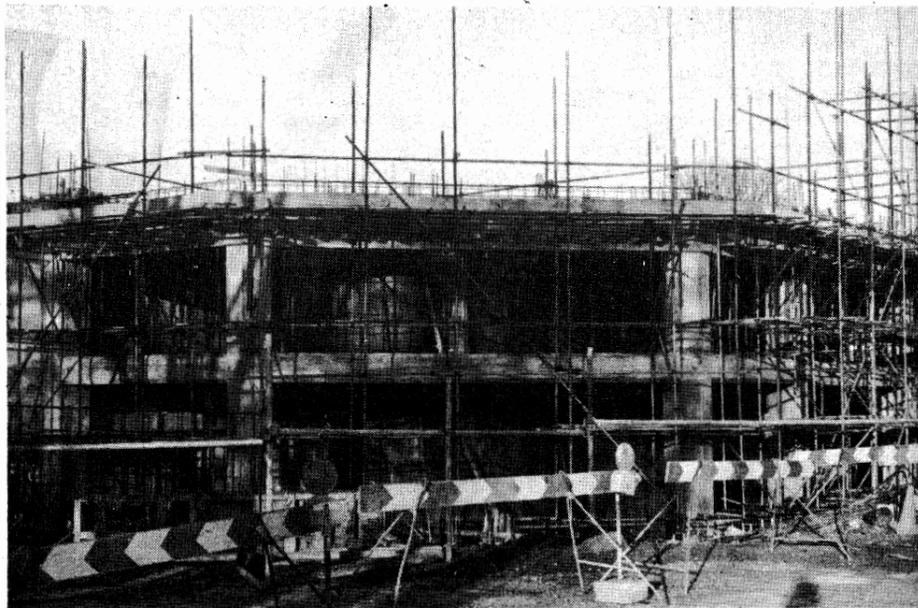
JANUARY 1976 No 81



The Newspaper of the Essex Police

Force establishment up 346

H.Q. on the up-and-up



Reaching up to change the sky line of the Headquarters building profile, the new information centre is steadily progressing. Although still clad in scaffolding it has advanced far enough to give an impression of its final appearance.

Pensioners Garden Party

WHEN the Pensioners Garden Party Committee met in December the Treasurer, Chief Inspector Wally Thurgood, was able to report that there was £471 in hand.

But inflation might put the cost of the 1976 garden party above this figure. By how much the Committee could not guess and it was resolved to meet again in the Spring when any appeals which might be necessary

could go out.

It was decided that the 1976 party would be held at the Cadet School on July 8, the Committee having been told that if they wanted cadets to take part this was the only week available.

Much of the credit for the cash in hand goes again to women officers and in particular Ch. Insp. Lorna Brooks and Constables Lesley Robinson, Ginny Granville and Kay

Meiklejohn, who took part in a sponsored swim guaranteeing to cover 50 lengths of Blackshots Swimming Pool at Grays. In fact each girl covered exactly that distance — approximately one mile and in doing so raised £219.25p.

And whilst the girls have been doing their swim Sergeant Vera Bayliss has done her bit by organising raffles at various Divisions in the county and has raised nearly £84 by this method.



A NEW YEAR GIFT from Training School to Divisions was delivered when constables arrived at their stations on New Year's Day to start duty. They are, from left to right: Marie Barnes, (Harlow); John Harrington, (Harlow); David Richards, (Colchester); Michael Jones, (Colchester); David Clark, (Billericay); Leonard Jarman, (Chelmsford); Paul Phillips, (Tilbury); David Fincham, (Epping); David Rogers, (Saffron Walden); Bill Stephen, (Corringham); Stephen Clarke, (Corringham); Geoff Herbert, (Basildon); David Swann, (Chelmsford); Brian Dennis, (Canvey Island); Lesley Owen, (Harlow); Peter Collins, (South Ockendon); Thomas Statter, (Saffron Walden); Glen Cairns, (South Ockendon); Martin Slade, (Harlow); Gary White, (Chelmsford); Geoff Cox, (Canvey Island); Terence Barrow, (Basildon); Alan Ratley, (Tilbury); Roger Webber, (Grays); and Paul Kelly (Tilbury).

AT THEIR late November meeting the Finance and General Purpose Sub-Committee of the Police Committee agreed that, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, the authorised establishment of the Force be increased by a total of 346, that is 1 Chief Superintendent, 2 Superintendents, 5 Chief Inspectors, 7 Inspectors, 40 Sergeants and 291 Constables.

The Chief Constable reported that the last review of establishment in Essex was in 1965 and in Southend, 1964. The figures then fixed made a total of 2,315, a ratio of police to population of 1-498.

Since then there have been slight variations, either small numbers added, reviews of ranks within the total or the addition of women officers, bringing the establishment to the present 2,436.

Approval of Secretary of State still needed

The Chief reported that with present recruiting trends this total would be reached by the summer of 1976.

New factors

The population of the force area had risen to an estimated 1,346,100 by July 1975, and under the ratio of 1-498 this would justify an increase of 388.

Since 1965 an ARD has been given as leave in each 4-week period reducing the working week by 5%. Superintendents have been granted more leave and the consequent "acting up" reduces availability among lower ranks. This factor would also justify an increase, of 135.

Additionally, in March 1975 Essex took over policing Stansted Airport.

Workload

Moreover, the workload of the force has generally increased. Problems of drugs, crowd control, public order, immigration and security have mushroomed since 1965. Crime complaints have escalated from 31,248 (1965) to 45,867 in 1974 and the number of traffic prosecutions for these years shows a rise from 33,323 to 61,485.

Civilians

Although civilian strength has greatly increased over the past 10 years they are, in some cases, doing work which has been added to police responsibility during that period. Others, cleaners and the like, are not relieving policemen of duty, but traffic wardens or process servers make a contribution to the workload but do not entirely off-set the increased burden on police officers which has occurred since 1965.

Reduction

The increase of 346 would have the effect of reducing the ratio of supervising officers to constables from 1 — 2.9 to 1 — 3.1.

Most of the senior posts are intended for HQ. The Chief Supt. will be head of Operations — confirmation of a position already in existence. An additional Superintendent will be concerned with Complaints, and another with Inspections in the P & I Department.

HQ, CID will gain a Superintendent but Grays Division will lose one. Lower down the rank scale additional inspector posts will be created at Harlow CID; Southend CID; Clacton; Colchester, Community Involvement; and Stansted Airport. Again some of these merely confirm appointments already made.

The biggest increase in men on the ground goes to Harlow where the establishment will increase by 5 sergeants and 48 Constables.

If approval is given by the Secretary of State the establishment of Essex

Idents record



ALWAYS ready to fly the flag for his department Det. Supt. Lewis Minshall has good reason this time. Because in 1975 the Scenes of Crime Branch made a record number of fingerprint identifications, over sixteen hundred.

Real chauvinism

RECENT moves by the French authorities to purify the French language by stripping it of all the English words which have crept into everyday use in recent years, the resulting mixture is known as "Franglais." have our complete support.

Franglais has been banned from radio and TV and from all advertisements. Gone will be Le Weekend, Le Parking, Le Camping, Le Pipe-line, Les Hotdogs, Le Showbusiness and the rest. There are to be some exceptions where words have no French equivalent. but these are to be pronounced Frenchily — Le bouledozeur for example.

Such French chauvinism — the true meaning of this over-used word, bellicose patriotism, surely fits this case — is to be admired. Alas, could we but do the same, but English is such a conglomeration of foreign tongues. Away would go khaki, blitz, au revoir, and such Americanisms as hopefully, no-way and language-wise.

The very term constable is French though we must agree it came over with the Conqueror. Most of our foreign words came over with someone or other resulting in English becoming the richest language in the world — how's that for a bit of real chauvinism?

Back to the blue

WE HATE to say we told you so — well no, actually, we quite enjoy saying it — on this or any other subject

but having read the Force Order about the white shirts find the impulse impossible to resist.

It is so ironic that only three days after the Great Equality Bill was introduced with all the fanfares of verbiage customarily reserved for measures that ordinary people do not want, female members of the force should have their pretty white shirts taken away.

In fact we hear that it all came about because of the force working party on uniform received a letter some time ago from a constable who admitted to being male, drew attention to the forthcoming legislation, pointed out that he had noticed policewomen, constables as they were then called if you remember, wearing white shirts, and asking if he might in future be issued with such garments.

The working party consulted the federation who replied that they had no desire to wear white shirts and so a recommendation was made that everyone below inspector rank would wear blue. And since we are on the subject we might as well tell you that we have written to the working party to tell them that we have noticed constables carrying shoulder bags so that members of the force may not have to carry their handcuffs in their pockets much longer.

In the meantime, as the Order states, existing stocks will have to be used up, and we all know what this can mean.

Despite the way our words must sound we do not like to hear of people being made worse off by legislation which was supposed to be their salvation and the ladies concerned may believe that we are sad to learn that sergeants and inspectors who were formally

in supervisory positions necessitating car allowance will no longer receive it because they are "ordinary" members of those ranks. But we did tell you so, just look at some recent back numbers.

Adult illiteracy

IS IT NOT dreadfully sad that after something like a century of universal education in this country the government should have to donate one million pounds because it is estimated that some two million people cannot read or write well enough to cope with official documents? Now this might tell us something about the language in the documents, mumbo-jumbo more often than not, or it might say something about the education industry. But it is certainly an indictment of the individual concerned.

Often, of course, it is no fault of his. In his youth he may have fallen behind through illness, been not quite bright enough to catch up by himself, and too shy to tell the teacher until it was too late for anything to be done about it except sit him at the back or send him out to do some gardening. Classes have been too large for ever.

We find it sad to think that these poor embarrassed people not only cannot enjoy the benefits of reading (these lines, for example) but have to go to no end of trouble to cover up their inability.

So perhaps we may commend everyone to help wherever possible. It would be nice if their gratitude were directed towards the police or even to some individual member.

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.



equality by bringing women into line with men. Are we saying that this is a man's job and that they must alter their ways to conform with us? Because that's not equality. Are they to equal us or are we to equal them? It appears most sensible to compromise, keeping the whole matter in perspective. So please, let's not stop opening doors for them, watching our language and appreciating their valuable femininity, because, when all's said and done, they are still women.

Tony Warren, Pc 639 — Landon Traffic.

What equality?

Dear Editor:

I can't help feeling that this equality business is turning the minds of some officers. I now find that because of equality, it's considered OK to use four letter words in front of women Police, where before it was kept for all male company. Now it's usually followed by a snigger.

Why are we trying to turn women into men? We give them equal pay, equal shifts, equal exposure to rude language and behaviour, and I know very few women who wanted this equality anyway.

Two things stand forgotten in this all out rush to equal the sexes: First, women still deserve the courtesy and manners accorded to them by gentlemen through tradition. Second, we break a rule of

SIR, — Please, please, when is this Police Force of ours going to realise that its poor members that are without "Curves and Curls" are being grossly discriminated against, we not only have to be four inches taller to get a job but when we do manage to get employment we have to put up with the same uniform all year round unlike our more shapely colleagues who get lightweight open necked, short sleeved trendy gear for the summer months.

How many of these Police Constables that wear trousers with only one leg (and that's too short and without a crease) do we ever see walking the streets with those great heavy dome shaped things upon their heads, and how many of these poor constables that wear two legged trousers get an allowance for their socks and are given a handbag to carry their pads of HORTI's, tobacco and all the other private little things they have to carry round with them in? — NONE.

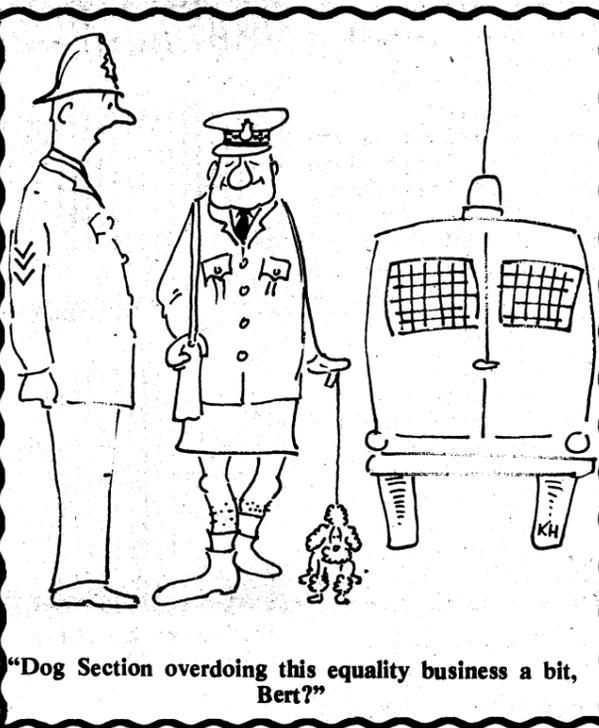
All in all I feel that it is us that need liberating not the fairer sex don't you?

Some Pcs without Curves and Curls".

Thank you

Dear Sir, May I thank those members of the Ongar Sub-Division and others who supported the Multiple Sclerosis Society's Christmas card and gift list and any sales of Christmas wrapping which enabled a further £4 to be sent to "Invalids-at-Home."

G. W. Darby, P.c. 499 Police Station, Ongar



"Dog Section overdoing this equality business a bit, Bert?"

ON THE MOVE

HAVE you seen the Sunday TV programme, "On The Move"? Have you noticed the open book sign anywhere? Both are concerned with the campaign against adult illiteracy. The Law would not suggest that members of the force are in need of help. But this article may show that you can help others.

THINK back as far as you can, almost to your earliest memories. Was there ever a time when you were conscious of the inability to read or write being a drawback? Probably not to most members of the force who would have enjoyed the gradual development of these abilities, but there are many adults in this country who have a serious inability to read and write properly or cannot do so at all.

And so embarrassed are many of them that they go to all sorts of lengths to cover up their inadequacy. Some pretend they have left their spectacles at home or have hurt their writing hand. Even when "cornered" they are often unable to bring themselves to face up to the problem and do something about it.

Mrs. Christine Watson, campaign organiser for central Essex, tells the story of making arrangements for two students to make their initial visit to her office one evening.

At the appointed time they had not arrived and her experience told her they were probably in the car park. It was pouring with rain but out she went and there they were — "too embarrassed to come in," says Mrs. Watson.

There are several local co-ordinators in Essex, directed by a county organiser, Mr. Ken Stokes-Wall, Essex, is well to the fore in the national campaign to reduce adult illiteracy and in the course of the Essex drive, Det. Supt. George Harris was contacted.

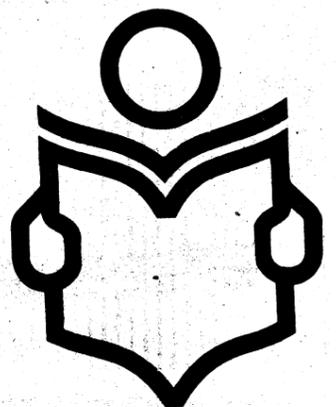
He soon saw that this was a field in which police could play a part. Says Mr. Harris, "I don't think police officers will be able to offer much in the way of teaching because it will be difficult on shiftwork to commit themselves to a regular two hours per week.

"It is essential that a close link between student and volunteer instructor is maintained throughout the period of instruction. But in the matter of referrals the Force can be of great assistance," he added.

Many of the people who need "treatment" the most do not themselves make contact with those who can help them.

They have to be "referred" — encouraged, cajoled — driven, almost, to make contact. Policemen come up against such people all the time but probably, being unaware of the problem, do not recognise the signs.

"It is not only as defendants that you meet adult illiterates," says George Harris, "but as witnesses, missing persons, at domestic or in the many other ways that we have daily contact with members of the public."



Finding them is one thing, knowing what to do with adult illiterates is something else. Wherever the open book sign is displayed, information can be obtained. The County Council is involved and it is they who have appointed the eight full-time officers to administer the scheme and train volunteer instructors.

Simultaneously, with the publication of this issue of The Law, Mr. Harris is sending posters and leaflets to main stations giving the details of the local organiser.

"It is often necessary to help these people with the first phone call to make contact," says Mr. Harris.

But although the primary function of the police is likely to be the discovery and referral of people who cannot read and write, some members of the force may also like to enrol as volunteer instructors.

Full commitment

But they must remember that it is vital to commit themselves to regular attendance for a full course of instruction.

One who has done so in the past is Constable Keith Treasure of Maldon, who took part in classes at the Cadet School.

"You have to get his confidence," says Keith, "and convince him you don't think he's a fool because he can't read. Then a you can teach him a lot. They are all very keen to learn."

Disruption of their education rather than lack of intelligence is often the cause of adult illiteracy. World War II is responsible in the 40 years old age group but in younger people, illness can be the cause.

OBITUARY: Stan Giggins

It is with regret we record the passing of ex-Insp. Stanley C. Giggins, aged 79 years, on 17 December, 1975. The funeral service was held at Bentley Church, Brentwood, on Monday, 22 December, 1975 where "Stan" was married.

He will be remembered most as the founder member of N.A.R.P.O. in 1945, within the old Essex County Constabulary district. He laid the foundation of the Association which has progressed for strength to strength and will be long remembered for his activities in those early days.

I am sure all members will join me in expressing our condolences to his son — Sgt. Dick Giggins and his family at their sad loss.

National Association of Retired Police Officers by Bert Brinkley

Police/Fire Pensions Scheme — Counting of War Service.

From telephone calls and other enquiries I have received it is obvious the letter from the County Treasurer received by pensioners with their last payment was far from being easily interpreted. However, I will endeavour to clarify as best I can.

Firstly, as I see it, there are three categories in which police pensioners fall (a) those who served during the last war entirely in the Police Service; (b) those on the Army Reserve or other Reserve, who were called up for service in the Armed Forces, and (c) those who joined the Armed Services and subsequently joined the Police Force before 30.6.50.

In the case of (a) this service has already been reckoned for pay and pension purposes; (b) this service likewise was reckoned for pay and

pension (Police and Firemen Act, 1939). Reservists had their pay made up by the Police Authority during War Service until such time as their Service pay and allowances exceeded the relative Police pay; and (c) appears to be the only group of pensioners concerned.

It must be borne in mind that whatever War Service is allowed to count towards pension the overriding maximum pension for 30 years (or even more than 30 years) is 2/3rds. Pensioners who come within Category (c) should complete the form which accompanied the letter and return it to the County Treasurer. There must, of necessity, be some delay each application has to be verified with the appropriate Records Office. It is understood that some local authorities have already implemented the Scheme but Essex

Girl is Cadet of the year for the first time



Cadet of the Year, Susan Youngs of Colchester Division, pictured with her parents — naturally delighted — after the presentation.



Cadet cup winners with the Chief after he had made the presentations, from left, M. Dunion (fitness), M. Fish (art), I. Learmonth (captain, winning house), Commandant, M. Spellman (walking), N. Milbank (photography), N. Dermott (athletics); front, J. Smith (needlework), S. Youngs (Cadet of the Year), Chief, S. McAuley (sports all-rounder), and J. Aldous (fitness).

END OF AN ERA



WHEN SERGEANT Bert Tracey, of Colchester Traffic Section, hung up his uniform for the last time in December it was the end of an era. For Bert was the last of the few — the last ex-Colchester Borough Police Officer still serving in the Colchester area.

And now there are only four ex-Borough Officers in the rest of the County.

Bert joined the Colchester Borough Force in February, 1946, and served for just one year before this Force amalgamated with the Essex County Force.

He remained in Colchester and on the formation of the Traffic Division in August, 1966, he moved to that Division, although he remained at the Colchester station.

Our picture (by courtesy of Essex County Standard) shows Bert booking off for the last time.

FACED with a boom in adult direct-entry recruiting and a financial crisis which compels close scrutiny of all "luxury" expenditure, the Cadet Corps gathered at Chelmsford on 19th December for their annual Parents Evening.

But in defiance of the uncertainties which these facts, and 18½-year-old entry into police, should have produced, Cadets were as smart as ever and after the interval mounted an entertainment which was voted their best since the school opened in 1969.

In his speech to Cadets and their parents the Chief Constable touched on all these difficulties but stated that unlike some forces a firm decision to continue cadet training in Essex had been made, albeit with slightly reduced numbers next year.

The Chief mentioned particularly the new police arrangements — almost, it seemed, as due warning to girl cadets — by which equality means what it says in future and both sexes will operate as constables.

Equality

Following up, in his review of the year, the Cadet Commandant said that girl cadets had always been faced with equality and that on a Friday afternoon, halfway round the now traditional cross-country run before going home for the weekend, he suspected they were faced with a little more equality than they wanted.

Speaking to parents the Commandant explained that the cadet training staff reserved their worst cruelties for Friday afternoons so that Cadets would arrive home with the details fresh in their

minds. This was so that no parent would think his child was getting an easy ride.

Cadet of the Year

As if to emphasise the equality of opportunity existing in the Cadet Corps the Commandant went on to announce first that a new cup for the best sports all-rounder had been awarded to a girl, Siobhan McAuley and then that the top award of all, the Cadet of the Year Cup, had been won by Susan Youngs.

This award is traditionally kept secret until the moment it is announced and the facial expression of the recipient and the enthusiasm, or otherwise, of colleagues is very revealing. In the case of Miss Youngs' award was

acclaimed, particularly by female colleagues.

The concert afterwards contained mainly humorous items by cadets at the expense of the system though there was some evidence of a staff backlash in this direction. An exception was cornet player Graham Clarke who played well

enough to have his name noted by Band chairman Supt. Bob Palmer.

The whole presentation ran smoothly as cadet productions are expected to and the only pity is that the pressures of a full programme do not permit this to be harnessed for public relations purposes.

Female jubilation: male chauvinist gloom



The Law couldn't let this one go without commenting upon the female exultation — and male indifference at best, or gloom at worst — which greeted the announcement that a girl had become cadet of the year.

Cadet Cup Winners

Fitness Cup Boys	Michael Dunion
Fitness Cup Girls	Julie Aldous
Inter House Cup	Colne (Ian Learmonth)
Athletics Cup	Nigel Dermott
Runner-up	Anthony Southern
Race Walking Cup	Mark Spellman
Best Allrounder Cup	Siobhan McAuley
Needlework Cup	Jill Smith
Art & Craft Cup	Malcolm Fish
Photographic Cup	Nicholas Milbank
Best Print Trophy	Malcolm Fish
Sociology Cup	Susan Youngs
Cadet of the Year Cup	Susan Youngs

Cadet Educational Prize Winners

British Constitution	Robert Taylor
Sociology	Anne Dempsey
English Literature	Michele Hicks
English Language	Alexander Vowles
Economics	Linda Fell
Metalwork	William Stephen
General Science	Adrian Went
PC2A	William Stephen
PC2B	Malcolm Mattack
PC III	Susan Youngs
1 year cadets	Jane Collins
PC1B	Philip Dodd

Trapped - but refreshed

EMBARRASSED and flushed was P.C. Nigel Harbour of Southend Eastern Division during his Constables' Refresher Course recently held at the Cadet School.

Nigel 'Houdini' Harbour, a member of the Magic Circle who regularly entertains at children's parties, put on a special performance for his colleagues on the course. For on his bath night he managed to lock himself in the bathroom in the single men's quarters, where he remained trapped for about three-quarters of an hour before he was released by some kind person, who just happened to hear his cries for help.



ANNUAL TRAFFIC DIVISION

DINNER AND DANCE

TUESDAY MARCH 9, 1976

at the

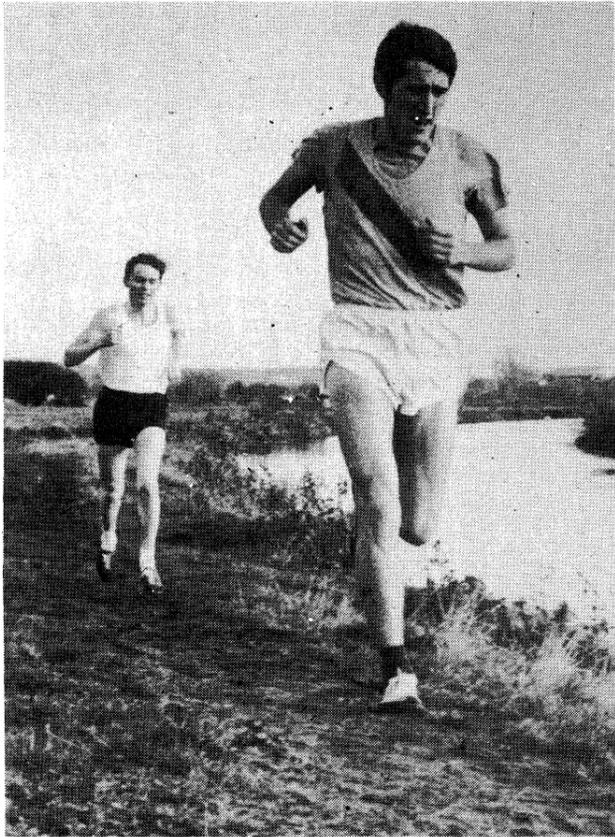
HEYBRIDGE MOAT HOUSE, INGATESTONE

Tickets £4.25 inc. wine

Tickets available to serving traffic officers, civilians in traffic offices and garages and serving officers ex. traffic. Please see your local rep. for tickets. Tickets are limited, so wives rally round your husbands early. If any retired traffic officer is interested contact P.c. 317 Colbert, H.Q. Traffic.



Harlow by weight of numbers



Force champion, Graham Butler, followed by Cadet champ, Alex Vowles.



Brother-sister team of Fosters: Bob representing Harlow and Julia, who was first home in the force race, representing Southend.

RUNNERS from four divisions contested the force cross-country championships at Chelmsford on December 17 when Harlow were rewarded for turning out a big team with an easy win.

The event also included the Cadet Corps championship and about 90 runners, male and female, toed the line in cold sunny conditions.

The women's race, a short 2 miles gave Siobhan McAuley, Cadet Corps All-rounder of the Year, a comfortable win from Julia Foster representing Southend East.

Julia only just held off fast finishing cadet pair Julie Aldous and Amanda Prouse, only one second apart.

Second and third in the police race were Michele Hicks, HQ and Rosie Palmer, most senior lady present, who finished together 8th overall out of the field of 20 girls.

The men's race was over 3 laps and a shortish 5 miles in length, and Graham Butler, HQ, set off into the lead at once, towing cadets Alex Vowles and Gary Barrett with him.

Barrett soon dropped off but the others went all the way together, Butler just getting home in a sprint finish. After a lone race Barrett finished an isolated 3rd.

Then came a string of cadets, A. Hayman, D. King, M. Dunion, D. Murray and K. Skingley before Southend's Peter Blois took police runner-up spot just ahead of John Weatherley, HQ.



Winner of the Cadet race, Siobhan McAuley, half a mile from the finish.

Although P. Bennie, 16th overall, was the first Harlow runner to finish there were plenty more behind him and their eventual total was 139, with the girls' scores added.

The nearest of their rivals, Southend East, totalled 64 and they were followed by HQ 48, and Colchester 40.

But to these scores have to be added those still to be obtained in the 10 miles walking race at 2.30 p.m. on January 21, coupled with a women's 3 miles the same day.

TOP OF SOCCER LEAGUE

BY SOME good performances and high scores — more than three goals in a game has become almost commonplace — the Essex Police soccer squad ended 1975 on top of the Olympian League.

Never before has The Law been able to report such a happening at this halfway stage of the season. It is to be hoped that the Management are asking themselves why it has happened, a question, alas, so often reserved for bad times.

It would be almost as unfair to Paul Gamman as to the old guard to put all the credit on his arrival up front. But there is no doubt that his presence is giving the attack more thrust.

Fellow attackers John Rhymes and Peter Taylor are also flourishing and goals are therefore inevitable. And a stronger front line takes pressure off the rear, allowing them room to manoeuvre.

But it's tough at the top. Time alone will show whether the second half of the season will match the first. Perhaps the idea of introducing young blood could catch on.

There is plenty about: over half of last season's National Cadet Cup winning team are now serving with Divisions. Perhaps it is time to consider again the formation of a reserve side.

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Essex Police	15	12	1	2	25
Sawbridgeworth	15	12	0	3	24
Runwell Hosp.	14	9	2	3	20
Benfleet	12	9	1	2	19
Writtle	14	9	0	5	18

Police At

TO REVIEW the athletics year is never an easy task since one has to range from the London to Brighton walk to women's long jump and from the exactitude of times and distances on the track to the world of unknown mileage and doubtful times over the country.

Thus we have to consider both team and individual success always remembering that becoming a champion of something or gaining some representative honour is the unit of measurement.

So it would be unfair, in seeking the Essex Police athlete of the year, to look further than Mike Dunion, who was selected to represent the Great Britain Junior team twice during the summer. He won the Essex Junior and S.E. Police Region Championships and his sprint times — 7 miles or less in walking — have been some of the fastest ever seen in his age group.

Fellow walker Denis Sheppard, while somewhat under the younger walker's shadow, nevertheless won the Southern Counties Junior 10,000 mts championship and represented British Police.

Apart from these two the walking team had a thin time, though at the other end of the distance scale John Hedgethorpe pushed himself through 200 kilometres in 24 hours, to join the small number to have done so.

In the highlight event of the police walking year, the Barking to Southend race, the Essex team placed 2nd.

The women athletes of Essex Police have continued their successes of recent years. Individual pride of place must go to Ann Wileman (Ellingford last summer) who carried off the National Police Javelin championship in its inaugural year.

Equal to this victory was the triumph of the girl cadet team who travelled to Durham to win, for the second year running, the National Police Cadet Championship. Good team packing by Michele Hicks, 6th, Alison Marshall, 7th, and Shirley Keeble, 8th, brought about this great win.

Earlier, the girls' cross-country team had won the SE Police League without losing a race, and at the end of the year, in the new country season captured the first three races of the 1975-6 campaign.

Newcomers Siobhan McAuley and Julie Aldous have been the main architects of this brilliant start, well backed by Miss Marshall, and veteran of several seasons Julia Foster.

Back on the track Tim Mildinhal, although he pushed his high jump up closer to 2 mts, nevertheless lost his National Police title. Tim was one of the mainstays of the Essex team which retained the Regional Police championship in June.

This victory was achieved without several of the recognised "star" performers and was a triumph of team effort. This same quality showed in the Southern Athletics League where points were hard to come by.

The ranking lists show the best 3 performances of the

Kent knock out Essex girls in Beckle Trophy

PLAYING KENT in the quarter final of the National Police Netball Competition for the Beckle Trophy, the holder's, Essex, did not come anywhere near their usual standard of play.

And it was obvious that their arch rivals, Kent, had prepared very thoroughly for the game.

Both teams took the first quarter to settle down, but Essex through some careless passing allowed Kent to go into the lead by 3-0.

Being driven on by the ever forceful Mo Chaplin Essex started to come back in the second quarter and at half-time the scoreline was 7-2 in favour of Kent.

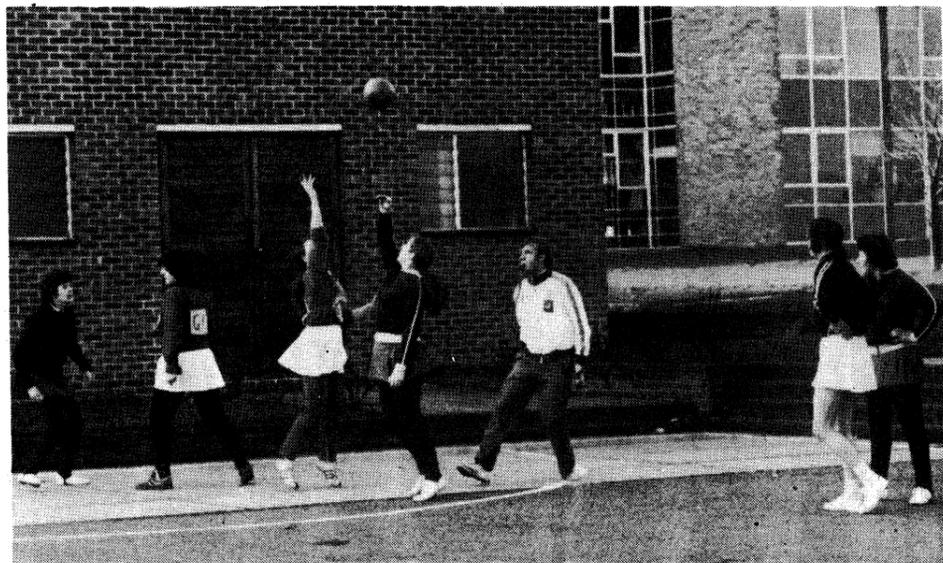
Making a tactical change Essex hoped to confuse the opposition in the third quarter, with Sue Youngs and Pat Campen changing positions but this had little effect as play became very scrappy and Kent pushed further into the lead by 20-5.

The final quarter saw a change on the court with Jill Smith coming on in place of Pat Campen but to no avail with Kent running out eventual winners at 25-7.

It was obvious that Kent's pre match preparation was far more thorough and that Essex were very rusty.

Maybe it is now time that, having suffered their first defeat in thirty-three months, the force team now sit back and start to analyse their mistakes and take the opportunity to prepare for the coming year.

Team: Sue Youngs, Barbara Ruby, Ginny Granville, Mo Chaplin, Lesley Robinson, Jeanette Bailey, Pat Campen, Jill Smith, Stephanie Hoskins, Jane Gibson (Umpire).



Scene from a recent netball match at H.Q. with Essex players in light skirts, from left Mo Chaplin, Ginny Granville defending, and Lesley Robinson looking on apprehensively. Umpire Martin Reed, meanwhile, keeps his eye on the ball.

Force Cross-Country Race Details:

Men: 1st G. Butler (HQ) 25.41; 2nd P. Blois (SE) 27.27; 3rd J. Weatherley (HQ) 27.54; 4th M. Fairweather (Col) 28.52; 5th P. Bennie (H) 29.18; 6th A. King (H) 29.51; 7th C. Skingley (SE) 31.20; 8th L. Berry (SE) 32.00; 9th P. Brew (H) 33.18; 10th K. Rowe (H) 33.35; 11th A. Hall (H) 33.39; 12th J. Lane (H) 34.24; 13th J. Pryke (H) 36.15; 14th W. Steven (Col) 36.30; 15th R. Foster (H) 36.35; 16th B. Miller (H) 37.06; 17th T. Jeffs (Col) 37.46; 18th E. Ray (Col) 38.35; 19th R. Dickinson (H) 39.37; 20th K. Smith (H) 42.15; 21st M. Fayle (SE) 42.18; 22nd P. Kania (H) 42.24.

Women: 1st J. Foster (SE) 14.03; 2nd M. Hicks (HQ) 16.06; 3rd R. Palmer (H) 16.06; 4th A. Crust (SE) 18.03; 5th T. Hallesey (H) 20.06.

Cadet Cross-Country Race Details

Men: 1st A. Vowles 25.42; 2nd G. Barrett 26.27; 3rd A. Hayman 26.43; 4th D. King 27.07; 5th M. Dunion 27.15; 6th D. Murray 27.20; 7th K. Skingley 27.20; 8th T. Hindes 28.17; 9th S. Davidson 29.08; 10th P. Dodd 29.10.

Girls: 1st S. McAuley 13.24; 2nd J. Aldous 14.06; 3rd A. Prouse 14.07; 4th J. Smith 14.24; 5th A. Marshall 14.59; 6th L. Brewster 15.24; 7th S. Watson 16.50; 8th T. Humm 17.07; 9th N. Davies 17.08; 10th A. Taylor 17.33.

Essex Police 10 miles walking championship

(coupled with match
against Met. Police)

Chelmsford (Cadet School)

2.30 pm on Wednesday
21st January 1976

letes' average year

ear, 1975. Clearly the greatest impact has been made by Dunion who set a force record at each distance at which he competed — only the commoner walking distances have been included in the list.

But Graham Butler, in leading the list in 5 events, worked hard. All his events were running but more diverse talents were displayed by Mildinhal, 100 mts, jumping and throwing, and Bert Wallace, throwing events and pole vault!

Before her retirement Maria Oldall logged some goodish performances and Barbara Ruby and June Collins both showed a good range of ability.

When the cross-country season began in October it seemed Essex Police might be in for a beating as Andy Brown, on whom the team has relied heavily for several years, was on the injured list, but a remarkably good crop of newcomers has ensured 3 successive victories in the Police League.

So what are the prospects for 1976? Good: the girls' cross-country squad is stronger than last year's, though assessing their chances in the national cadet

championships is difficult.

The women's track team has to be renewed every 2 or 3 years anyway and the process could be more than ever necessary in 1976. Provided everyone can be fit and available at the same time the men's team should be stronger than last year.

And the walking team, too, should just about be running into form. The long distance squad — on paper at any rate — is the strongest available for some years. Target number one is the Barking-Southend team race.

Athletics of all branches will continue to be run from the Cadet School where Tony Armstrong and John Hedgethorne are always ready to welcome new members.

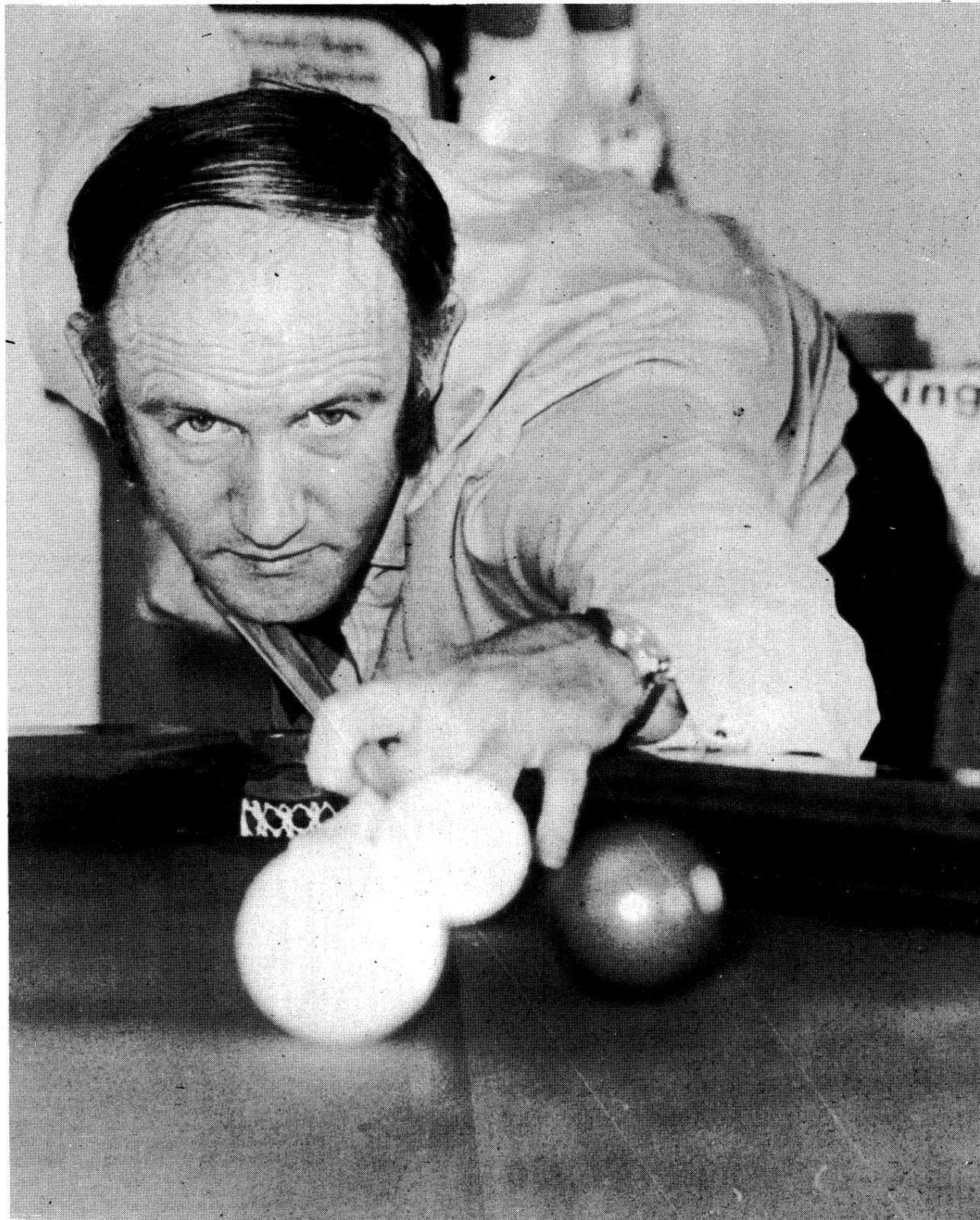
Track training will begin soon and any new members of the Force who fancy involvement in this activity should get in touch. Dates of next summer's events, where known, are shown below.

21st April: Opening Track Meeting, Chelmsford.

3rd June: Essex Police Championships, Chelmsford.

24th June: Regional Police Championships, Welwyn.

Jim goes coaching



DOING his own thing to keep youngsters off the streets and out of trouble is Detective Inspector Jim Glaister of Braintree C.I.D.

Not in the usual manner of crime prevention or community involvement though for Jim intends this month to start introducing youngsters between the ages of twelve and seventeen to his sports, billiards and snooker.

Recently under the strict surveillance of experts Jim went through his paces on the snooker table.

And after several days of practical and theory tests he was able to satisfy the experts of his undoubted ability.

Now he has been appointed a national coach by the Billiard and Snooker Control Council, and becomes the only man in Essex to hold such a title.

Not only does Jim make good use of snooker tables in the local police stations but he has his own brick-built "billiard hall" at the end of his garden in which is installed a full-size table, where he intends to start

weekly two-hour sessions to train youngsters. These sessions will cost the participants the vast sum of 10p per session.

Sundays

At the same time he intends to start a similar scheme for the youth of Braintree and hopes to hold these sessions on Sunday mornings at a venue yet to be decided.

He explained to the Press: "I feel the scheme has great possibilities and could easily produce some excellent players of the future."

But far from being the only reason why he wants to share the love of his sport with youngsters who are keen to learn, he continued, "I strongly believe that there are lots of kids around who want to learn billiards and snooker the proper way."

"As long as the response to the idea from schoolkids and youth clubs is good enough, there is no reason why I can't run about ten five-week classes per year.

From scratch

"By doing it this way, I

can start them completely from scratch — even if they already know a bit about the games — and by the start of next season I shall probably be able to enter a team of lads in the Colchester Billiards League."

Already he has thought of a name for the team and feels that competition against superior players can only be good.

"I don't expect the team to walk off with all the pots going in the first season, but at least playing in a league will teach them a lot about the game and give them valuable experience," he said.

Jim learned all he knows about the games the hard way — by teaching himself and then playing against better opponents.

"I started when I was about twelve in a club in Barrow-in-Furness and was allowed to have a go on the worst table in the hall after I had swept up the whole room.

Won a few

"The whole thing progressed from there and over the years I must admit

that I have come to like billiards much better than snooker, although the two are complementary."

Not a man to boast of his own personal achievements he will admit to "having won a few cups in my time, but I've also lost a few."

He plays billiards, when possible, for the Colchester Conservative Club and also for the police, but feels that good young players are just not coming up to take their place among the local — or national — elite.

And it is the wealth of experience gained over more than 30 years of playing that he is looking to pass on to youngsters.

"With this coaching title and the facilities at my home in Braintree, it seems stupid not to use them.

"To start with, kids need not worry about equipment, as I have enough cues of all sizes for them to use.

"However, I would hope if they proved to be good enough, they would either buy, or have bought for them, cues of their own."

Photo by courtesy of Essex County Newspapers.

WALKING — MEN

Performance	Name	Venue	Date
3000 Mts			
12: 49.4 (R)	M. Dunion	Palace	8.10
13: 34	D. Sheppard	Palace	8.10
14: 27	M. Spellman	Palace	8.10
5000 Mts			
22: 13 (R)	M. Dunion	Basildon	29.6
23: 44	D. Sheppard	Palace	12.11
24: 55	M. Spellman	Palace	12.11
10000 Mts			
46: 09 (R)	M. Dunion	Edinburgh	10.8
49: 00	D. Sheppard	Enfield	30.8
51: 55	J. Hedgethorne	Chigwell	20.12
20000 Mts			
106: 13.4	D. Sheppard	Chelmsford	19.4
111: 10	J. Hedgethorne	Battersea	5.4
117: 56	A. King	Steyning	12.4
50000 Mts			
5: 00.04	J. Hedgethorne	Southend	18.5
5: 07.38	D. Sheppard	Southend	18.5
5: 22.54	B. Daymond	Southend	18.5
7 miles			
51: 00 (R)	M. Dunion	Enfield	8.11
55: 36	D. Sheppard	Enfield	8.11
57: 33	M. Spellman	Enfield	8.11
10 miles			
79.33 (R)	M. Dunion	Chelmsford	22.1
82.30	D. Sheppard	Slough	1.2
87. 20	J. Hedgethorne	Battersea	1.3
20 miles			
2: 57.33	J. Hedgethorne	Leicester	24.5
2: 58.44	D. Sheppard	Chelmsford	26.4
3: 20.15	B. Daymond	Chelmsford	26.4

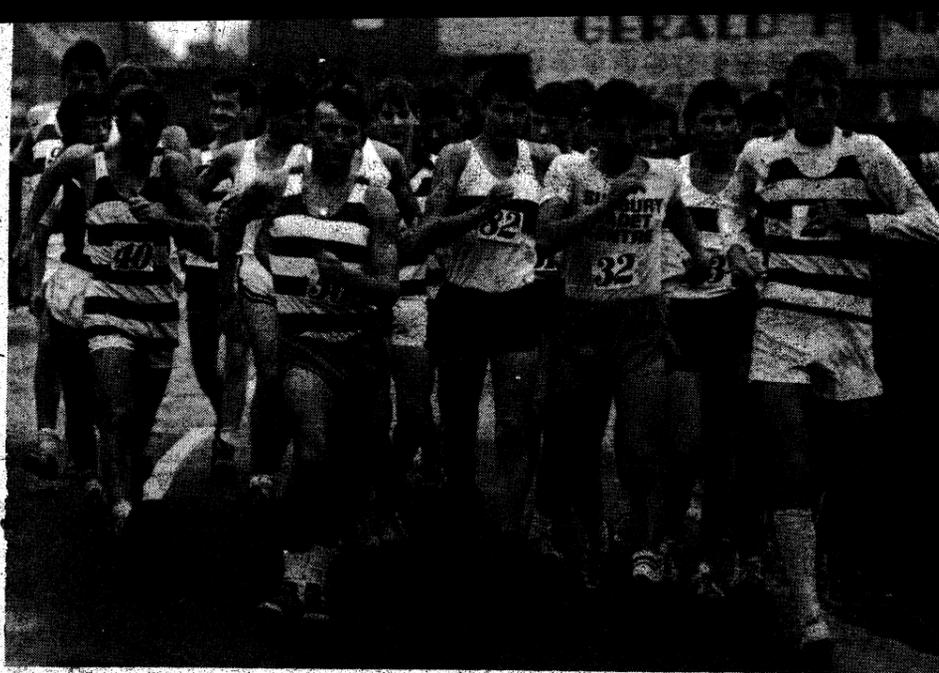
WALKING — WOMEN

2000 Mts			
13: 25.4	S. Couzens	Chelmsford	29.5
13: 55.4	B. Wright	Chelmsford	29.5
14: 59.4	A. Dempsey	Chelmsford	29.5
3000 Mts			
18: 05 (R)	J. Aldous	Chelmsford	19.11
18: 15	S. McAuley	Chelmsford	19.11
19: 26	C. Poole,	Chelmsford	19.11

ATHLETICS — WOMEN

Performance	Name	Venue	Date
100 Mts			
12.7	M. Oldall	Chelmsford	30.4
13.8	B. Burgin	Oxford	26.6
14.5	B. Ruby	Chelmsford	29.5
200 Mts			
28.4	M. Oldall	Chelmsford	29.5
30.0	B. Ruby	Chelmsford	29.5
30.1	M. Hicks	Chelmsford	29.5
400 Mts			
73.3 (R)	A. Marshall	Chelmsford	17.9
74.5	T. Hayes	Chelmsford	17.9
75.5	S. McAuley	Chelmsford	17.9
800 Mts			
2: 49.5	J. Collins	Oxford	26.6
2: 51.6	S. Keeble	Chelmsford	29.5
2: 51.6	B. Cussen	Oxford	26.6
Long Jump			
4.24m	B. Ruby	Chelmsford	29.5
3.87m	M. Hicks	Chelmsford	29.5
3.67m	A. Dempsey	Chelmsford	29.5
High Jump			
1.25m	J. Collins	Chelmsford	29.5
1.20m	M. Oldall	Chelmsford	29.5
1.20m	V. George	Chelmsford	29.5
Javelin			
33.95m	A. Ellingford	Gateshead	9.8
25.52	V. George	Chelmsford	29.5
18.41	J. Smith	Chelmsford	29.5
4 x 100 Mts			
57.2	Oldall Ruby Hicks Collins	Chelmsford	30.4

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



Walkers get under way in a recent race at Chelmsford. On the left Essex experts, Mike Dunion (50) and Mark Spellman (40); on the right beginner Tony Pierce (2) whose rush to the front was not to last.

Walking

THE PERIOD under review covers the closing of 1975 and opening of 1976. And the old year — not too successful at times — slid out in much the same way while New Year's Day saw the beginning of better times. This was Mike Dunion's

excellent performance in the City of London 3 miles on New Year's Day when he took on most of the best seniors in the country and finished a creditable 6th in a time over a minute faster than he had previously done. Two days later the whole junior squad were in action on home ground when Police promoted the Everard Memorial Walks. And the

home team were good enough to capture first place in the men's and women's main events.

Dunion was again on good form to win the 8,000 metres by a minute. Dennis Sheppard made a bold show from the start but had to be content with 6th while Mark Spellman completed the scoring in 11th.

The women's team were perhaps a little fortunate as one or two teams had members missing but that's sport — and they had to beat old rivals Met Police — and did so reversing their previous defeat: S. McAuley 6th, J. Aldous 8th, and A. Taylor 13th were the scorers. The youth team, D. King, P. Rice and A. Hindes took

3rd place at 5,000 metres. So the year started well.

In December teams of indifferent strength contested two Essex Walking League races, 7 miles and 10,000 metres on two courses at Chigwell. Perhaps this is not to be a Police year in the League. At any rate after 2 races the team is lying 5th — not too good but there are 10 races to go.

Not so mediocre was the team's performance at Blackheath when in a 9,000 metres yacht handicap Mark Spellman hit the front and hung on to win despite a determined late challenge from John Hedgethorpe who finished 2nd in a personal best for the course.

The coming month includes the Essex Police 10 miles championship at Chelmsford at 2.30 p.m. on January 21 (leave changing rooms by 2.15 p.m.)

Results

League 7m: Chigwell: 6.12.75
13th, J. Hedgethorpe, 59.39; 23rd, B. Daymond, 64.06; 25th, A. Hindes, 65.50; 27th, P. Rice, 67.47; 28th, J. Roche, 69.47.

Blackheath 9 kilos: 10.12.75
1st, M. Spellman, 46.29; 2nd, J. Hedgethorpe, 46.33; 10th, D. Murray, 48.12; 12th, A. Hindes, 51.15; 14th, D. King, 48.59; 18th, P. Rice, 51.54; 23rd, R. Pierce, 53.54; 24th, G. Matthews, 53.54.

Bexley 7 miles: 13.12.75
46th, J. Hedgethorpe, 58.53; 56th, M. Spellman, 60.27; 70th, A. Hindes, 63.54.

League 10,000 mts: Chigwell: 20.12.75
15th, D. Sheppard, 50.15; 23rd, J. Hedgethorpe, 51.53; 29th, M. Spellman, 53.31; 41st, A. Hindes, 56.49; 43rd, G. Matthews, 57.38; 45th, P. Rice, 57.58; 47th, G. Barrett, 59.50.

Women's 3,000 mts: Chigwell: 20.12.75
5th, A. McAuley, 19.16; 6th, C. Poole, 19.39.

City of London, 3 miles: 1.1.76
6th, M. Dunion, 20 (Force Rec.).

Everard races: Chelmsford: 3.1.76
8,000 mts: 1st, M. Dunion, 37.17 (Force Rec.); 5th, D. Sheppard, 40.06; 11th, M. Spellman, 42.05; 14th, A. King, 42.35; 17th, D. Murray, 44.01; 19th, B. Schulz, 44.54; 21st, J. Roche, 46.39; 24th, L. Berry, 48.48. Team 1st.

3,000 mts: 3rd, D. King, 26.23; 11th, P. Rice, 28.09; 13th, A. Hindes, 28.29; 14th, G. Barrett, 28.35. Team 3rd.

Women's 3,000 mts: 7th, S. McAuley, 18.22; 9th, J. Aldous, 18.54; 13th, A. Taylor, 19.58; 14th, C. Poole, 20.08; 16th, S. Couzens, 21.29. Team 1st.

Athletics year from Page 5

ATHLETICS — MEN

Performance	Name	Venue	Date
100 Mts			
11:6	P. Taylor	Chelmsford	29.5
11:9	K. Rowe	Oxford	26.6
11:9	T. Mildinhal	Chelmsford	29.5
200 Mts			
24.5	A. Masson	Oxford	11.6
24.7	K. Rowe	Chelmsford	29.5
24.8	P. Taylor	Chelmsford	29.5
400 Mts			
55.1	K. Nowell	Norwich	24.8
56.3	A. Hayman	Chelmsford	17.9
56.7	V. Mullender	Chelmsford	29.5
800 Mts			
2: 8.4	G. Butler	Chelmsford	28.7
2: 8.9	V. Mullender	Chelmsford	29.5
2: 12.9	A. Down	Chelmsford	29.5
1500 Mts			
4: 29	G. Butler	Chelmsford	20.4
4: 30.4	E. Reeve	St. Albans	10.5
4: 40	V. Mullender	St. Albans	10.5
3000 Mts			
9: 29.4 (R)	G. Butler	Chelmsford	17.9
9: 51.8	A. Vowles	Woodford	18.11
9: 55	A. Hayman	C. Palace	8.10
5000 Mts			
16:35	G. Butler	C. Palace	12.3
17.49	K. Skingley	C. Palace	12.11
18.14	V. Mullender	C. Palace	12.3
3000 Mts			
11: 00.8	G. Butler	Chelmsford	29.5
11: 04.6	A. Vowles	Newham	31.5
11: 19.6	G. Barrett	Woodford	19.11
110 Mts			
Hurdles			
20.8	A. Armstrong	St. Albans	10.5
20.8	K. Rowe	St. Albans	10.5
400 Mts			
Hurdles			
67.9	C. Odell	Newham	31.5
68.9	V. Mullender	St. Albans	10.5
72.0	A. Armstrong	St. Albans	10.5
Pole Vault			
2.73m (R)	N. Dermott	St. Albans	10.5
2.30m	A. Wallace	Newham	31.5
Long Jump			
6.09m	M. Sear	Oxford	26.6
5.91m	T. Mildinhal	Oxford	26.6
5.65m	K. Rowe	Oxford	26.6
High Jump			
1.93m (R)	T. Mildinhal	Gateshead	9.8
1.65m	A. Armstrong	Oxford	26.6
1.60m	C. Odell	Chelmsford	17.9
Triple Jump			
12.20m	M. Sear	Oxford	26.6
10.67m	A. Watson	Newham	31.5
Shot			
11.59m	A. Wallace	Oxford	26.6
11.23m	C. Buller	Chelmsford	29.5
10.20m	P. Taylor	Chelmsford	29.5
Discus			
29.50	A. Wallace	Oxford	26.6
27.42	A. Southern	Victoria Park	27.4
25.33	M. O'Sullivan	Chelmsford	29.5
Javelin			
37.56	T. Mildinhal	Gateshead	9.8
47.22	A. Wallace	Oxford	26.6
43.80	A. Murrells	Chelmsford	29.5
Hammer			
37.12	A. Wallace	Chelmsford	29.5
33.88	J. Missendon	Chelmsford	29.5
30.02	A. Southern	St. Albans	10.5
4 x 100 Mts			
48.2	C. Odell, Trott Vale, A. Odell	Chelmsford	17.9
4 x 400 Mts			
3: 49.8	Reeve, Mullender Mattack, Vowles	Dover	11.6

Rifle section review of 1975

THE Force Rifle Team were not quite so successful in the Essex County Summer League 1975. For winning the competition in Division 2 in 1974 we were promoted to Division 1. With 10 other teams, 9 matches were shot of which we won only two. The Team consisted of D.C. Wolton (Colchester) whose average score was 96.8. P.S. Brangham (HQ) 95.6. D.C. Byde (Colchester) 96.3. P.S. Breeding (Grays) 94.1 and D.S. Watson (Chelmsford) 92.4.

A Team of six went to the Home Counties meeting at the Metropolitan Police Sports Ground at Imber Court in Surrey in June 1975. Six cards were shot by each member, two at 25 yards, two at 50 yards and two at 100 yards. D.C. Wolton dropped 36 points out of 600. P.S. Brangham 36. P.C. Carter (Tollesbury) 37. D.C. Byde 44. P.S. Breeding 44 and P.S. Harvey (now Basildon, formerly Southend) 28. He was first in B class at 25 yards and won a Parker pen and 70p.

In the Police Forces' Team and Individual Championships at Bisley in September 1975, P.S. Brangham obtained an Expert Badge with a score of 377 x 400. D.C. Wolton and P.S. Breeding both got Marksman Badges with

identical scores of 370 x 400.

The Force Leslie Bailey Memorial Trophy was won by D.C. Wolton for the third year in succession. This Trophy runs in conjunction with the PAA Long Range Individual competition, but in view of the fact that only D.C. Wolton and D.C. Byde entered for the PAA competition it was decided that the scores obtained at Bisley would be included. Both competitions consisted of two cards at 50 yards and two cards at 100 yards. D.C. Wolton scored 377 x 400 in the PAA Competition. P.S. Brangham also scored 377 x 400 at Bisley, however, D.C. Wolton won the trophy because his 100 yard score was the better of the two by two points.

The Force Championship Competition was also won by D.C. Wolton with a score of 584 x 600. He receives the Club Champion badge. Runner-up was P.S. Harvey with a score of 580 x 600. Out of 13 members of the Force who applied for the six cards at the beginning of the season only five sets were returned shot. Other competitors were P.S. Brangham 578 x 600. P.S. Breeding 568 x 600 and D.C. Byde 566 x 600.

POLICE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIPS 1976

Angling	Metropolitan
Association Football	Metropolitan
Athletics	West Yorkshire 17.7.76
Badminton	Northants 29/30.3.76
Bowls (Flat Green)	Edinburgh 7/9.9.76
Bowls (Crown Green)	Staffordshire
Clay Pigeon Shooting	Strathclyde
Cross Country/Walking	Staffordshire
Golf	Portrush, Ulster 24/28.5.76
Indoor Games	Strathclyde 18/21.5.76
Lawn Tennis	Wimbledon 16/17.9.76
Sea Angling	Strathclyde
Shooting SB	Merseyside
Squash	Cambridgeshire 5/7.4.76
Swimming	Cardiff 14/15.9.76
Ten Mile Road Run	Northants 16.9.76
Wrestling	Durham
Weightlifting	Strathclyde
Sailing	Sunderland 17/18.6.76
Judo	Devon & Cornwall
The remainder still to be arranged.	

Federation Notes



by Stan Smith

Home Secretary's message to the Police

I AM glad again to have the opportunity to send my greetings at Christmas to all members of the police service in England and Wales.

I record my admiration for the way you have faced the continuing challenge of crime, and especially of terrorism. You have met its viciousness with courage and fortitude. I am grateful to all ranks who have shown in the face of this new threat to our society a devotion to duty which the community has come to expect — and never in vain. There can be no better tribute to the best traditions of the police. The pressures and complexity of your work are unremitting, but your response has been equal to all the heavy demands placed upon you.

On behalf of the vast majority of the people in this country I express gratitude for the examples of steadfastness, tact and resolve which you have set for us all.

I wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and a more peaceful New Year.

LAST MONTH, in support of the Joint Central Committee's campaign to bring home to the public the dangers in permitting the insidious increase in crime, especially violent crime, to become just one of those things, I wrote a fairly lengthy letter to the Editors of the local newspapers which circulate in Essex.

Apart from the fact that the Police were actually standing up and saying something, which is very unusual, I said nothing outrageous but merely called upon the public to consider the situation and invited them to write to their Members of Parliament if they thought that something should be done to stop the violence in our society today.

Most members of the public seem to think that we are not like them but we must let them know that we are citizens as well and that dealing with crime and its consequences day by day we are in a much better position than all the experts to see how things are going. Just how many of these so-called experts on criminal reform, who have had things all their own way in recent years, appreciate the results of violence upon families and the victims themselves?

Unfortunately the newspapers did not print my letter in full but merely extracted certain parts which appeared to be of a sensational nature and put them together resulting in some cases into a travesty of my intentions.

The only reaction so far has been a couple of letters from well-wishers and two letters from angry members of the public printed in a local weekly, one of whom is angry at a remark about homosexuals attributed to me. My only remark on the telephone to a reporter relating to homosexuality was in connection with the ease with which small minority groups can get the law changed whereas the overwhelming majority of the public seem to be unable to have their will expressed.

It is estimated that if every police officer spoke to one person a day and persuaded them to write to their M.P. then in one week they would together receive half a million letters and don't you think that would make them sit up and take notice?

HOUSING

Your Representatives are very concerned over the proposals to reduce expenditure upon Police housing and members are urged to do all in their power to bring to the notice of members of the Police Committee our very deep concern over the cessation of the house modernisation programme and the attempt by the County Architect to have the period between redecorations extended from seven to eight years. The reaction from

members who have heard of these proposals has been extremely angry and I am sure that the Police Committee does not know the feelings of members of the Force on this subject.

If both these economies go through we shall feel very badly let down and that trust which has been built up by a formerly sympathetic Police Committee will be badly shaken. We know that economies have to be made and are prepared to take our share in any other sphere than our homes because from experience we know that if the wife is happy at home then we turn out on the streets more contented and that converts into efficiency. The Police Officer at work who is concerned about the frustration at home caused by such cuts cannot have his whole mind on the job in hand.

ELECTIONS

The Elections in December produced a new Joint Branch Board with several new faces and some who have served on the Boards previously. We also lost some very familiar ones and this trend is likely to continue for the next few years. On the Constables' Board we welcome Malcolm Kohler of Chelmsford and Peter Hook from Clacton who replace Bill Pepper and Len Saxby. New faces on the Sergeants' Board are Len Perrott of Basildon and Mick Bannister of Leigh replacing Ernie Claridge and Bill Whalley. The Inspector's Board have no less than five new members in Alec Fox, George French, Mick Wombwell, Joe Gazzard and Don Harner.

A number of former members of the Boards have gone for good due to their impending retirement from the Force. Ron Shayshutt has been a Representative for a long time and was lately the Inspectors' Board Secretary. Len Saxby has been on the Constables' Board since 1959 and has been Board Chairman and Secretary and also Vice-Chairman of the Joint Board. Phil Weall was only on the Board for a short time compared with the other two mentioned but performed a very good job as the Joint Branch Board Chairman until he retired from the Board this year.

Another former Chairman of the Joint Branch in the shape of Eric Price has also called it a day as has Bill Pepper who has been Constables' representative for Chelmsford Division for some years. Our appreciation for their efforts will be shown in due course.

At their Meeting on 5 January the new Joint Branch Board elected a new chairman in the shape of Inspector Ted Davidson of



FROM P. 2.

Just think how much the ability to read and write is taken for granted as part of normality, especially in the police. Read the small print; the letter of the law; the writing on the wall; it's a write-off; all every-day phrases. It's a small thing really, to help people who are too embarrassed to help themselves, after all, we have to deal all the time with people who do help themselves.

NARPO — FROM P. 2.

has not at the present time. Whilst agreeing the letter could have been more explicit a certain amount of common sense has to be applied in determining whether or not the Scheme applies.

On several occasions recently I have been confronted by the apparent grievance of those pensioner who were 'blackmailed' into averaging over 3 years in 1949 under the Oaksey Committee decision. Now that the Regular Police pension is calculated on the last year's salary only, it is considered by many who opted in 1949 should have their pensions adjusted so as to bring them into line with current Regulations. Personally, I see no hope in this direction, as was mentioned in Bulletins Nos. 72 (Autumn 1974) and No. 73 (New Year 1975). A deputation from the N.E.C. called upon the Home Office on 4 December, 1974, and outlined their case. The Minister of State (Lord Harris) promised he would give the matter his attention and give a detailed statement in due course — we are still awaiting this decision. If the decision went in favour, which I very much doubt, it would mean a great deal of work and endless calculations and for this reason I cannot pin any faith upon retrospection.

I noticed in the 'Federation Notes' that two members had complained of the method of payment of motor car allowances. It would seem a change has been made for change's sake which is not always for the good. I cannot recall a single complaint on the old method of payment which had been well and truly tried, but then, I suppose we were considered old fashioned and 'Not with it' according to modern day standards.

Force Magazine

At a meeting of the committee on 15th December the question arose concerning increased postal charges. To post two issues would cost 23 pence. The Committee decided to increase subscription rate to 40p for two issues which included postage. Anyone desiring the Magazine should send their subscription to C/Supt. J. F. Challis, Police Station, New Street, Chelmsford.

The Treasurer and I have received many expressions of good wishes for the future, as it is not practicable to reply to all individually we both reciprocate all good wishes for 1976 and may it prove even more profitable than 1975.

CONTINUED FROM P. 6.

Headquarters and a new Vice-Chairman personified by Alan Cook of Harlow C.I.D.

INSURANCE

The recent storms highlighted the danger in not keeping one's house contents insured up to date because very many people are not going to receive the amount of compensation they thought merely because they had not topped up their premiums to account for the increased value of their homes.

The police Federation have negotiated a very good House Contents insurance with the Crusader Insurance Company and details can be had upon application to this office. I would also remind you that personal life insurance needs to be topped up now and again and the Federation Return of Premium Scheme can be joined or added to at any time. regards and ride safe.

New Chief H.M.I.

RETIRING after three years in the post is Sir John Hill, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary. His place will be taken by Mr. James Houghton, who retired from his Merseyside force where he was Chief Constable at the end of the year.

Mr. Houghton joined the Birmingham City Police in 1935. In 1965 he received the QPM and was made CBE in 1971.

When Liverpool and Bootle were merged into one force in 1967 he took charge and later became Chief Constable of the reorganised Merseyside Police.

He has always been a critic of lenient sentencing holding the view that persistent criminality ought to be severely dealt with.

He played a leading part in setting up crime squads and drug units.

BRITISH CHURCH POLICE

This recently formed Police Force is now fully operational and for the information of all officers they can be contacted as follows:

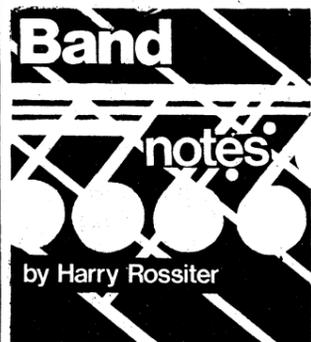
- Headquarters Bishopsgate 81311
- Bishop-in-Charge Lambeth 1113
- Duty Vicar Cannongate 1113
- Exorcisms & Hauntings Priestwood 1113
- Illegal Ceremonies Canterbury 51515

N.B. The B.C.P. are only to be notified when offences occur in churches, churchyards, etc., or where church personnel are involved in offences.

Church Liaison Officer (Lay Preacher) — N.S.Y. Ext. 140. Force Liaison Officer — Inspector B. S. BOON, Braintree. Vatican Seconded Officer — Contact Rome via Interchurchpol.



CHRISTMAS lunch for Mrs. Hehn and her Headquarters' kitchen staff included farewells to Mr. Thomas Healey, rear right, who retired on December 31st after eight years as porter. Pictured taking a festive glass with the ladies is Mr. C. H. Kelly (A.C.C.P.), who attended to present them with their Christmas bonus, donated by the Headquarters' Bar Committee.



Let me start this contribution by wishing all my faithful readers a happy and prosperous 1976 with wishes that you might make it a year to support your favourite brass band in all its doings and toings and fro-ings.

The band ended 1975 with a flourish indeed, giving three very successful renderings during December.

On the 3rd we went to Southend Police Station at 7.30 p.m. and made a success of the evening. Harold Hull gave a fine euphonium solo and although a bit early in the month we played some carols which gave the audience a chance to do their bit. I think that the 'Borough', as we shall always remember it, are always pleased to see us. Certain it is that we enjoy going there and are always made welcome.

A week later we went to that far flung corner of the District, Epping, where we gave a concert at St. Margaret's Hospital in aid of the Ex-patients Club of the hospital. This concert was organised by the Rotary of Epping and I believe that they were well satisfied with our efforts. Geoff Broome our mate from the Irish Guards delighted the audience with his fine cornet playing and with Jack Ripley doing the compering we couldn't put a note wrong. We were regaled afterwards with cheese and wine which served to quench our respective thirsts. Chief Supt. Vickers made us welcome and thanked us afterwards for an evening which we all enjoyed very much.

We're gluttons for punishment as the next day saw us doing a lunch

time concert for the Out-patients clinic at Severalls Hospital. This was a very much 'go as you please' playing the music to suit the mood of the moment so to speak. We were asked to play some strange requests like 'Knees up Mother Brown' — well I ask you. Anyway it was a lively stint and I can assure you that there is nothing less than cheerful spirits at Severalls certainly it seems that way when we go there.

And so to round off the year, we had us a lively evening at Headquarters on Monday 22nd. Were you there? You must have been. The place was crowded to the gunwales and unfortunately some of you had to be turned away, there simply wasn't enough room. It was really seasonal with plenty of carols sung loudly by you lot in the auditorium not forgetting the children who volunteered to come on to the stage and sing. One surprise for us was the efforts of our worthy Bandmaster Jim Bearman with his bassoon. Ever seen one of those things? At first sight one feels inclined to sit in it with all that polished bright brown woodwork. Anyway he displayed his virtuosity and also a fine baritone voice with his rendering of the Bassoon song. This ditty proclaimed interalia that playing the bassoon is very good for coughs and colds and killing rats and mice. No doubt if I tried to play it they'd run for miles. However with the Chief and Deputy and Assistant Chiefs present and their ladies to support us as well as some top brass of the Police Authority we were pleased to be able to show our prowess and enjoyed doing it.

My memory of that very successful Christmas concert will always include 'Father Christmas' being very merry as such a personage should be, leaping about the stage during our final number trying to lob a small bar of chocolate down the horn of Dick Jiggins' baritone. Fortunately for Dick he missed but it raised a laugh which I think was typical of the atmosphere that prevailed. The carol singing was led incidentally by Ray Bowker who made some interesting historical comments concerning the origin of some of



Jim Tarbox, Derek Turner, Tony Warren, Tim McCoy and Dave Robinson playing at a local Old Age Pensioners' Club at Grays. (Picture by courtesy of Thurrock Gazette.)

Grays musicians - Makepeace

NO, not the officers of Saffron Walden Division but five music lovin' P.c.'s from Grays Traffic and River Sections, who have formed a Country and Western Group. Readers may well remember the original appeal published in The Law.

The quintet are Tony Warren, the founder of the group, Tim McCoy, Derek Turner, Jim Tarbox and Dave Robinson. They now spend their spare time entertaining local organisations and clubs in the Grays area.

They call the group, formed about eighteen months ago, the Arkansas Makepeace. When asked to explain this somewhat unusual title, Tony Warren said: "This type of music we sing and play originated in that part of the States and the second-half of the name

we chose for obvious reasons."

Tony can play several instruments and was, therefore, in the ideal position of being able to teach anyone who was interested in playing with him. Tim was the first to join Tony and plays guitar and self taught electric double bass. Dave arrived at rehearsals one day with a mandolin, for a laugh but enjoyed it so much that he decided to stay.

The Arkansas Makepeace was completed with the arrival of Derek on rhythm guitar, and Jim on second mandolin. All the group sing vocals.

"We all love music and enjoy every performance we give. The whole idea of the group is less that it gives us enjoyment and pleasure to other people at the same time," explained Tony.

Although it's difficult fitting rehearsals and performances into off-duty hours — they inevitably work different shift times — they think it's all very worthwhile.

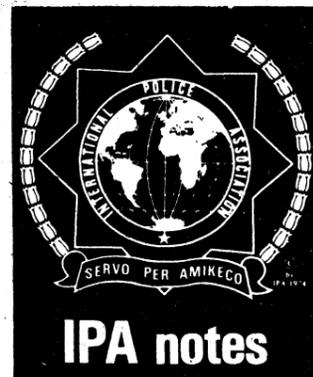
The group is non-profit-making — anything left after expenses goes to the Essex Police Benevolent Fund — and they supply all their own instruments.

Tony revealed "We were lucky to have Dave in the group because he's also an electronics expert. He was mainly responsible for setting up the amplifying equipment."

One of the group's most recent engagements was entertaining the old folk from Blackshots Old Age Pensioners' Club where our photograph (by courtesy of Thurrock Gazette) was taken.

the carols — helped us to catch our breath as well between numbers. We had the benefit of the services of Geoff Broome, principal cornetist Irish Guards and Keith Duxberry principal trombonist of the Scots Guards and their renderings were delightful as ever to hear.

However, farewell 1975 and welcome in the New Year with its challenges. From January 1 the Band became legally constituted with a Board of Trustees appointed to run the affairs of the Band on a sounder (excuse the pun) basis. This may also further our cause towards becoming an 'official' band.



IPA notes

The date for the Annual General Meeting of the International Police Association, as promised in the last edition of The Law, has been announced as being Thursday 22nd January, 1976, at 8 p.m., to be held at Chelmsford Police Station.

On the following day, 23rd January, 1976, an I.P.A. Social, including a chicken buffet will be held at Tilbury Community Centre from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets available from Chadwell St Mary Road Safety Office, price £1.75p. A REMINDER FOR MEMBERS THAT ALL RENEWAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE.

Who's off



What's on

Not having heard from you lot, it falls to me once again to think of something intelligent to write. Well, that's asking for trouble for a start so here goes. It was mentioned the other day, that with the arrival of the new Sex Act, that there could always be the possibility of the Ladies joining the ranks of the Motor Cyclists. I had never considered this seriously until then. Well, the thoughts that ran through my mind were multitudinous to say the least. I can see the necessary Force Order asking for applications with the added proviso:—

Those who consider themselves suitable should be able to comply with the need to push, bump start, kick over for hours, motor cycles of varying capacities from 650 cc upwards. It should be borne in mind that the machines ridden by patrols are quite heavy and are considered by those that ride them cantankerous and unreliable. Therefore potential patrol officers

should be able to extract them from ditches and other strange places and be in a position to catch the usual cardboard fox/dog that regularly runs across most Essex roads. They should also be about 14 stone and have strong right legs capable of starting a retarded crop sprayer (T.37 H.Q.Norton). The manufacturers of motor cycle equipment would also be issuing memos about the changing shape of riders. Consider the thought.

Sir,

With regard to your latest request for the change of style motor cycle gear we beg to advise you that with regard to pocket book pockets we suggest that either the rider does not carry it in the usual place or submits to a chest transplant. The question of patent black leather kinky boots is another problem that we feel unable to cater for. With breeches, the problem is not of concern with the exception of the availability of zips or buttons.

Yours faithfully,
Fancy Fashions Ltd.,
Chelsea.

Well girls, anything is possible I suppose. If there are any persons out there who like the idea of riding the beasts, and are below the weight mentioned, say nine stone and have the right shape, I am at H.Q. on extension 347/8 and am more than willing to assist you in getting into your tight leathers.

With regard to the league, I think that we should start a new one again with all square. I think that the 1975 score has been one all between H.Q. and Southend.

I hope to arrange another of the infamous visits to a place where they convert water to alcohol and will arrange another meeting in the not too distant future to discuss it. Signing off then for another month, regards and ride safe.

GOOD GUESS WINS A CAR

HOW GOOD is your judgment on prices and repairs? D.c Keith Wheatcroft is obviously an expert — or just plain lucky — for he has just been presented with a Vauxhall Viva motor car by the Essex branch of the Vehicle Builders and Repairers Association, at their annual dinner and dance held at the Lion and Lamb Hotel, Chelmsford, recently.

Keith admits that it was really just luck that won him this handsome prize.

Whilst on duty at the Essex Show last summer Keith happened to stroll by the Vehicle Builders and Repairers Association stand, where he saw, mounted on a stand, a beaten up Vauxhall Viva motor car. Members of the public were being asked to try to assess the cost of repairing the car.

The Association had already had an independent valuation of the cost of repairs and decided that if anyone was within 25p of the professional valuation they would present that person with a new vehicle.

Keith decided to have a go and first thought that he would give an estimation of £600. But then he thought that it would not be a round figure. So he attached the magical figures of 11p to his first thoughts which brought him within the 25p of the professional estimate.



Said Keith, "Having that I was going to be entered the competition I forgot completely about it until about six weeks afterwards when I received a visit and was told that my estimate was the nearest and

being handed the keys of his new car by the Assistant Chief Constable (Admin) Mr Harry Taylor at the Association's annual bean feast. (Picture by courtesy of Essex Chronicle.)

He's easlea the best fundraiser we have



EDGAR EASLEA, Force Welfare Officer and Secretary to the Southend Sports Club as well as being Secretary to the Force Sports Association and many of its subsidiary sections has announced his retirement as Secretary to the Southend Sports Club.

Having held this arduous task for the past ten years Edgar considers that he is not able to give of his best in his Welfare work so, reluctantly is giving up this post.

During his term of office Edgar has seen the Southend bar grow to its present size and popularity, being used to good effect both for police and improving relationships between police and public.

Edgar has always been in the thick of things where fund raising is concerned. Indeed his record over the past year is something to be proud of, let alone over the past ten years.

In March of 1975 he organised a ball at the Cliffs Pavilion where over £1,000 was raised to assist the aged and sick. In the following month with the assistance of his wife, Hazel, he ran a dance in aid of the Lady McAdden B.U.S.T. appeal when £500 pounds was raised.

In August, 1975, Edgar again ran a dance where £300 was raised in aid of the Sita Lumsden appeal, and in September he organised the very profitable tombola stall at the Modern Living Exhibition held at the Cliffs Pavilion, and in fact, during this month raised a total of £1,500 towards both the Police Dependent's Trust and the Sita Lumsden Heart Unit appeal.

He has seen the start and continual growth of the holiday fund which, it is foreseen, will top the £100,000 mark, and the profitable trading from the Southend shop, due to close down for good in the very near future.

All in all, Edgar's record as Secretary to the Southend Police Club is so great that it will take a superman to fill his shoes. Our picture shows the Easleas at a social function last year.

the point of 30 years service to come — even if recruiting but are, in many cases, continuing as it is going now, coming up to age limit. And this is the other

It is unlikely, therefore, factor which weighs against that the Treasurer will the recruiting drive, as the actually have to pay the economy picks up and more total numbers by which the jobs become available establishment has been elsewhere the stream of augmented for several years applicants could dry up.

The additional 40 Sergeants and 291 Constables will be distributed among Divisions as follows:

	Present establishment		Variation		New establishment	
	Sgts.	Pes.	Sgts.	Pes.	Sgts.	Pes.
Staff	41	117	12	59	53	176
Traffic	60	211	0	0	60	211
Basildon	38	206	5	32	43	238
Chelmsford	37	178	3	30	40	208
Clacton	30	125	3	19	33	144
Colchester	37	178	2	29	39	207
Grays	33	144	3	28	36	172
Harlow	45	213	5	48	50	261
Southend (E)	35	193	6	23	41	216
Southend (W)	34	161	1	23	35	184

Witham office man retires



PICTURED just prior to his departure from the Force is Fred Bull, the office man at Witham.

Having completed his 25 years Fred decided to join the rank and file of civilians for Christmas 1975.

He told the Law: "I'm not taking up a job straight away although I've got several interviews lined up. I thought I'd have a rest first.

"I've seen quite a lot of changes in the job. As far as the blokes are concerned most of them are for the better.

"However, the ranks don't get the full backing of all the higher ranks as they used to. Everyone seems to be afraid nowadays."

Fred, who has four sons, three working and one still at school, said: "I've had some most enjoyable times in the Force and some most frustrating times, too."

— Photo by Dennis Mays

Establishment from Page 1

Police will become 2,782, broken down as follows:

Chief Officers	5
Chief Superintendents	12
Superintendents	26
Chief Inspectors	64
Inspectors	111
Sergeants	444
Constables	2120

Finance

But it is not all that simple, as the County Treasurer pointed out to the Sub-Committee.

He has made provision for the Force to recruit up to present establishment, 2346, by 31 March 1976. The money to pay additional officers has to come out of the rates and these have to be assessed well in advance.

The County Budget for 1976-7 was being compiled with a view of the actual strength of the Force rising to 2561 during the year, an increase of 125 over the present establishment. Only after April 1977 would it be possible to begin recruiting the other 221 officers required to reach the new establishment of 2782.

Recruiting

Despite the apparently good present recruiting situation there is an inevitable wastage factor which off-sets the gains made.

This is brought about by anno domini — officers who joined at the end of World War II are not only reaching