



THE LAW

May 1977

No. 95



The Newspaper of the Essex Police

Job creation to boost manpower

HOME OFFICE have given Essex Police the go-ahead for their proposals for a job creation scheme in the force area. This scheme is funded by the Government to enable employers to take on school leavers, who would otherwise be unemployed, in addition to normal establishment.

These young people will be employed for up to 12 months.

The Government has provided £112,000 to pay salaries for 37 jobs. Recruiting interviews have already started, and are being arranged by the Civilian Establishment Officer, Mr. J. Hudson.

The jobs to be covered are mainly clerical. Each division will have one additional staff in Admin., Courts, and CID and 14 will be employed at Headquarters. There are 4 vacancies specifically for typists, which are additional to the clerical jobs and which have yet to be approved by the Police Authority.

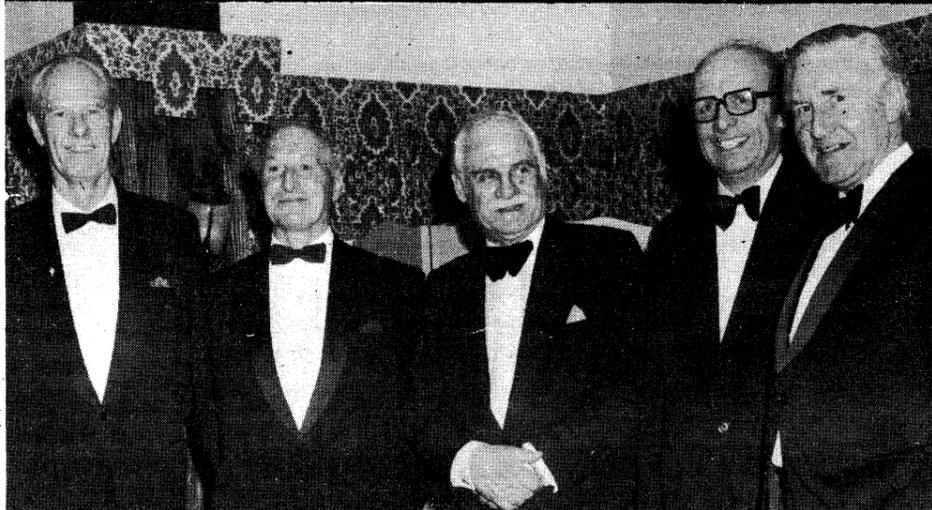
ESSEX POLICE AT HENDON



ESCORTED by Supt. George Tame, left, Her Majesty meets members of the Essex Police party who went to Hendon for her Jubilee visit to the Police.

The Essex party from the right are: W.P.c. Susan Youngs, Tw. Jack Francis, Mrs. Lilian Francis, Mrs. Susan Brown (P.S.U.), Mrs. Heather Rodgers (Federation) and W.Ch. Insp. Lorna Brooks. Catching sight of the Essex helmet plates the Queen remarked that it was nice to be able to read where the contingent had come from. More pictures on page 3.

The Chief says farewell to 128 years of police service



TAKING time out at the recent Senior Officers Dinner to say farewell to the boss are four officers whose service adds up to about 128 years. From the left Supt. Ron Canham, who retired from Chelmsford; Supt. Bob Palmer, Traffic; the Chief; Ch. Sup. John Farnsworth, Southend; and Ch. Supt. Wilf Partis, HQ.

Award follows burglars' arrest

EACH year the County Colchester Police Station, Standard group of two awards were presented. newspapers makes a cash award, in each area covered by the group, to the member of the public who renders the most marked act of assistance to the police.

Earlier this month in a short ceremony at

Friday, January 9, 1976, Mr. Bliss, of Hamilton Street, Parkeston, was in the Garland Hotel, Harwich, where he saw men who were strangers to him. He noticed that when these men left the hotel they walked towards a lane which led to a garage owned by Mr. Bliss in which he stores motorcycle parts and also to a scrapyard.

Mr. Bliss was suspicious of the two men. He left the hotel after them and saw them turn into the lane leading to the scrapyard. He saw that there was a van parked outside the hotel and taking this vehicle to belong to the two strangers made a note of the index number.

He walked to his garage, checked that it was in order and returned to the hotel not having seen the men again.

See also Page 8

IN THIS ISSUE

Letters—Pages 2 & 7

Tilbury—Pages 4 & 5

Football Final—Page 6

Specials Muster—Page 5

'Fitz' takes his pension



RETIRING with 25-years service, Sgt. Peter Fitzjohn received colleagues' gifts from Mr. J. Duke at a party at Headquarters last month. Peter, who had worked at the HQ Garage for 8 years was never one to stand about and started his new job at Colchester, promptly at 8 a.m. the next Monday.

Essex win 'Barking'



THE TEAM trophy in one of the best known of all police sporting contests, the Barking to Southend walk, fell to Essex earlier this month. The team are pictured above with their cups, from left, Peter Ryan, Les Berry, Denis Sheppard and John Hedgethorpe. Story and other sport on page 6.

A pity about the ruffians outside

WE WERE pleased to see the reasonably disciplined display of silence which greeted Mr. Rees at Scarborough last week. It was a pity about the ruffians outside because they were unnecessary but we can't have everything.

The same day another politician of a different colour made pious noises at the Conservative women's conference, about treating the police fairly. The ladies all clapped but what did these words mean? Nothing because they were later amplified by the statement, "We will not break any phase of the incomes policy approved by Parliament."

In other words neither more nor less than Mr. Rees gave.

How very odd

WHEN we shuffled through our daily paper one morning recently two widely spaced items stood out from the grey newsprint blur like blinding glimpses of the obvious.

The first was a remarkable follow-up to our report in the last issue of the advice to rape victims to shout, "fire." Apparently a social worker who was raped failed to shout fire or anything else. Nor did she complain to the police but, the next day, saw a doctor and arranged for the person responsible to go to a mental hospital.

Only when he escaped a week later, and after a great deal of prevarication, did she make a complaint of rape. The man was sentenced later to five years.

The newspaper report stated that Miss X, a social worker remember, "realised the man was odd because he shaved his head and painted his skull with nail polish."

The second was the annual report of the NSPCC which listed many dreadful examples of parental cruelty to children. "Others had been starved and neglected to a degree unthinkable in a civilised society," states the writer.

Of course it is only in so-called civilised societies that such "unthinkable" things go on. Primitive people rarely ill-treat their offspring and wild animals never.

Could there be a connection between these stories? Do these cruel things happen in our poor "civilised" society because it has been badgered into dependance upon armies of allegedly highly-trained social workers who recognise as odd people who shave their heads and paint their skulls with nail polish?

The unkindest cut

AS IF axing cadet training, not only in Essex but in other forces as well, were not bad enough, we must now endure farce being piled on top of tragedy.

The Government's job creation scheme provides cash from central funds to enable employers, who might otherwise allow prudence to prevail, to recruit unemployed school leavers or jobless over 50's. The farce of this situation stems from the fact that Essex, having saved roughly £100,000 by not recruiting about 40 cadets per year, now find themselves in receipt of £112,000 to finance the scheme, that is to employ 41 young people for about 12 months.

That the wages of former "unemployed school leavers" should amount to about the same sum as a similar number of smart, intelligent and alert police cadets is farce enough. What is even more ridiculous is the fact that it was the Government's financial crisis which threw the "unemployed school leavers" out of work in the first place by, among other things, forcing the discontinuation of cadet recruitment.

So, on the other hand we cut one hundred grand off the rates — you pay these — and on the other we add rather more to the tax bill — you pay taxes, too, so you'll foot the bill either way. And it's all part of our modern way of helping the needy: stop selective cadet intakes in favour of recruiting people who couldn't get a job elsewhere.

Spend to save cash

THE CHIEF Constable's Annual Report for 1976 has appeared in a less glossy form than hitherto. And indeed since we criticised as a waste of money the glossy version when it first came out in 1971, we ought now to find praiseworthy this year's attempt to save cash by producing a home-made report.

Alas, we cannot. It seems that no account was taken of the salaries of the several high-ranking civilian employees who spent some three weeks assembling the publication. The copy we reviewed fell to pieces in our hands and apparently some 20 per cent either had pages missing or doubled. They were not distributed like this we should hasten to add, but took even more time to correct.

Sadly we are now converted to the virtues of the glossy, commercial production. What a topsy-turvy world this is where, in order to save cash, we spend even more money but from a different pocket.

The Training School parade ground has for several weeks been all but filled with new motor cars, picture on this page. And they were purchased to save money. So now all you young men who find it hard to make ends meet know what to do until you get a pay rise.

Send the wife out to buy a washing machine, refrigerator, freezer, vacuum cleaner, dish washer, tumble drier and food mixer. This will save money in the long run but only if you can run further than your creditors and you would have bought them anyway.

Back to the Annual Report from which one howler has been selected, entirely unfairly and out of context, of course, from the story of a murder at that well-known Arctic-hard station, Saffron Walden. "The incident unfortunately coincided with a fall of snow

which obliterated possible clues and many people who normally would have been easily available for interview were difficult to locate. Snow joke at Walden!

There's a clever boy

QUITE the best animal story of the month was about a lost budgie. Have we not all read tales of cats walking home from Scotland and sagas of dogs crossing America?

But when this budgie got lost, and he was only a little chap under a year old, there was none of your walking home nonsense but in his piping voice he recited his telephone number so that the woman who found him phoned up to arrange for him to be collected.

And if you think that isn't very clever how many of you don't know the number of the Nick?

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.

Also surprised

Dear Sir,

I would like to comment on the letter "Embarrassed by bad manners" by Inspector C. W. Wright, in the April edition of the LAW. I do not wish to argue with him, as far as I know I have not had the pleasure of serving with him and I am sure he means well, however, I too was at the meeting and was surprised by the fact that no one stood up when the Chief Constable and his guest entered and even more when it was later repeated as they left. As far as I know there was no agreement on the part of the officers in the room to behave in this way and the impression I got was that it appeared to be a collective and subconscious expression of a deep frustration which exists among the Federated ranks of the Force.

I cannot accept that it was an expression of bad manners directed at the Chief Constable and his guest. I firmly believe that every member of this force has a deep respect and admiration for their Chief Constable not necessarily because of his rank but because of the man he is.

I too, like a good many other officers, served in the armed forces and although I did not serve in the guards, my regiment, namely The Middlesex (Duke of Cambridge's Own) or The Diehards had more than a fair share of loyalty, discipline, and respect. We were also taught that an officer cannot automatically demand the respect of his men, he must earn it. I and other officers of my generation still have this loyalty, discipline and respect which we brought with us from the services and which we transferred to the police force in which we serve. Over the past eighteen years this loyalty has been more than strained and indeed in some areas senior constables are and have been used and abused almost to the point of distraction but we are still here to spite them, simply because we want to be police officers.

It is at this point that I will state that I would not strike and I do not believe that officers of my generation and service will strike simply because they have this loyalty, discipline and respect. Since the war these virtues have been hammered out of the rest of the society in which we live. That is why it is in a state and why men of such standing are abused. But we have sense enough to realise that it is not the fault of our Chief Constable. Some other officers no doubt disagree with this and the younger constable may well go charging off to Trafalgar Square and though I may disagree with him I will not hold him in contempt and will probably even agree to serve with him.

Some years ago it was made plain to me that "these older constables were no good to themselves or anyone else", "they should be replaced with keen young men, who we can mould to our way of thinking," etc. Yet I believe it will be those very men who will sustain this police force through these difficult times. If we do not and the police force falls into a state of disaffection, it will be because another old Army rule will have been ignored, namely, a regiment is as good as its officers.

Finally, Inspector Wright may have noticed that I got up and left before the end of the meeting, this was not because I have contempt for the federated representatives on the platform, but simply that I was following another Army rule — never be late in the Naafi queue, or you may miss your free pint of beer and chicken leg.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN TURNS, Pc. 438
The Police House
Elmdon
Saffron Walden
Essex CB11 4LX

An outsider's view of HQ

Dear Sir,

I wondered if you might be interested in an outsider's look at your Police H.Q.s.

I have recently had the pleasure and privilege of attending a teleprinter course at your H.Q.s. I can only describe this course as being of the highest standard conducted in a most relaxed atmosphere, it was very difficult not to learn from your excellent instructors.

It is very easy to say similar things about the canteen, I found the food of a very high standard,

More letters on Page 7



NEW Ford Fiesta saloons in white and red, parked at HQ where they are waiting to be police cars.

Essex Police Amateur Boxing Club

TRAINING sessions are held at the Training School Gym every Wednesday, 8 p.m.-10 p.m.

All officers welcome, together with sons of serving officers and civilian members of Force Sports Club. It is hoped to schoolboy and junior section.

An affiliation of £1 over 17, 50p under 17 is payable. Further info available from Hon. Sec., Ds R. Miller, RCS, Brentwood.

and reasonable in price. The staff I can only describe as very charming. Nothing seemed to be too much trouble to them.

I wish I could go on in this frame of mind but I am afraid I cannot, the facilities afforded to the students on the courses were very poor, in fact that is an understatement.

Maybe in Sussex we are spoilt as regards to facilities.

As I understand it there are approx. 60/70 students attending H.Q.s each day on courses, most of them are resident, for entertainment I could only find one snooker table, two crib boards, three packs of cards, which were thick and almost unplayable and one dartboard which is positioned too low to the ground. I will agree there is a very nice colour T.V. Even so, not very much entertainment for 60/70 students.

I dare say one of the reasons which may be put forward is the new H.Q. which is currently being built. I believe this building has taken two years so far and I am given to understand that it will take at least another year before completion. Could some thought go to looking for improvement in the facilities for the resident students? Perhaps the Federation or the Welfare reps. could look into this.

So come on Essex, your name is held with great respect by other Forces, don't let small things like this let you down.

DAVID ROWLAND Pc.
John Street
Police Station
Brighton, Sussex
March 1977

A letter from Botswana

Dear Sir,

Being over sixty, and I suppose now somewhat senile, and by occupation a teacher in Africa — which, like Northern Ireland, is not exactly a placid place — I sometimes think, in fact I often dream of those peaceful times I had in the Police Force in Essex, particularly before the war.

There are, of course, places in Africa where it is still serene and tranquil. I can from personal experience recommend Point Lenana on Mount Kenya, or even higher, the snows of Kilimanjaro; but Oh for the days when I made a midnight 'point at the Thatchers' Arms and perhaps a 3 a.m. at old South Weald post office.

When I reminisce (perhaps I should say when I talk in a reminiscent way), people interested enough to listen do not realise that

Continued on page 3

Essex meet the Queen at Hendon



WHEN Her Majesty the Queen made a Jubilee Year visit to the Police Service at Hendon on May 6th an Essex contingent was among the gathering of police, families, cadets, wardens, and civilian employees who were there to meet her.

Said Federationist, Jim Rodgers, afterwards, "It was good to see what an excellent balance between ranks and departments the Essex party achieved. Some force parties were rather top heavy."

WHEN the guard of honour formed up to greet Her Majesty the Queen at Hendon on May 6 they had, indeed, a great many honours to show.

Selected for their meritorious service by their respective Chief Constables, the 57-strong guard had between them one George Medal, two Queen's Gallantry Medals, 10 British Empire Medals, and 14 Queen's Commendations for Brave Conduct.

The Essex Representative was Constable Ian Turner, of Clacton who holds a Queen's Commendation. He has twice been involved in the rescue of children from rivers.

Over 3,000 police officers, traffic wardens, cadets, civilian staff, specials, members of police authorities, and their wives attended the occasion of the Queen's Jubilee visit to the Police Service at Hendon.

SECONDED to the P.N.C. as an instructor, P.s. Iain Munro, of this force, demonstrates the apparatus to Her Majesty. This was the point where the vehicle check went wrong. Also in the picture is Mr. G. Atherton, second in command at the P.N.C. "I have always been a royalist", says Iain, "and this was the high spot of my career". Photo by courtesy of Hendon Times.



Loyal Message & Reply

TO COINCIDE with the visit of the Queen to Hendon on 6th May every force transmitted a loyal message by the PNC network and Her Majesty visited the computer building to watch messages coming in.

The text of the Essex Police message was: "Loyal greetings on your Silver Jubilee. May freedom remain and prosperity flourish whilst you graciously progress to the golden year of your reign."

In reply the Queen sent a message to police forces as follows: "The Queen is most grateful for the messages of loyalty received from all police forces within the United Kingdom. As an expression of thanks for these she sends to all concerned the text of her speech made at the Peel Centre, Hendon this afternoon."

"Thank you for what you have said and for this gift. I shall always value it as a token of the loyalty of the police service and as a reminder of this happy occasion.

I have been glad to meet here today representatives of the service and of the many other services which support police officers in their arduous duties. And I am particularly glad that it has been possible for so many police officers to have their families with them. You have said, Mr. Matthews, how much police men and women owe to the loyal support of their families. I understand what you mean. The Policeman's vocation is not the only one in which the support of one's family is a matchless blessing.

I should like you all to know how proud I am of the police. You cannot do your job properly without the support and goodwill of the public and you richly deserve the confidence they give you.

We all profoundly admire the vigilance in the prevention of crime; the patient and determined thoroughness in its investigation and detection; the unflinching courage when duty brings you into the line of danger; and the wise combination of disciplined firmness and human tolerance which you display in the maintenance of public order and the preservation of the Queen's peace.

These are the traditional qualities of the British Police which have earned a unique reputation throughout the world. Never has more been demanded of you than now; never has it been more important that you should keep faith with the expectations and the trust placed on you.

I greatly value the loyalty of the police service expressed in the messages received here today and in this gift. My thanks go to all the forces in the United Kingdom for them and for the welcome you have given me today.

With all my heart I wish every one of you, those here and those whom you represent up and down the country, continuing success in the years to come."

and the Duke

H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, wearing a mac' against the cold, greets members of Essex Police party.

When confronted by T. W. Francis, in civilian clothes, the Duke said, "Oh no! Essex haven't got C.I.D. wardens now, have they?"

Iain has some bad moments on PNC

SGT. IAIN MUNRO, of this force is seconded as an instructor to the PNC Unit at Hendon where he was on duty for the Royal Visit.

The Queen was to visit the Computer twice, once to see vehicle owner enquiries coming in and secondly to view the arrival of forces' messages of loyalty.

"Days of preparatory tests had resulted in one force, which shall remain nameless, always missing the test or coming in late," says Iain Munro.

The real thing was to be sent just as the Queen passed, in response to a "broadcast now" request from Iain Munro, on the terminal.

The moment of the first visit arrived when Iain was supposed to demonstrate an owner enquiry but was "horrified to see an unsolicited message of loyalty — far too early — coming from that very force which had always been too late during the tests." The owner enquiry was never made.

There were anxious moments again on the return visit when, with Her Majesty right behind the terminal, there was no response to the "broadcast now."

"I am grateful to that first force to reply — Cumbria," says Sgt. Munro.

Of course, the Queen, thinking she had seen the loyal greetings on the first visit, moved on. So 50 messages churned out unseen. Never mind, computers don't cry.

'J' Division first in Aid contest



AFTER their narrow win by the odd half point in 1976, Southend "J" Division made certain of retaining the Chief Wardens First Aid Cup this year by leading all the way and, in the end, winning by a good margin.

That is to say they led nearly all the way — in the first event of the contest, the inspection, they were headed by a single point by Colchester who eventually finished 2nd.

Our picture shows the winning team posing with the traditional scoreboard after the event. From the left P.s. Jack Faulkner, Hadleigh — trainer; P.c. Reg Hooper, Hadleigh; Wpc. Marion Young, Leigh; Wpc. Cheryl Matthews, and Wpc. Kay Purkiss, both Rayleigh; P.c. Trevor Matthews, Leigh; and Ch. Supt. John Farnsworth, Divisional Commander.

Cheryl Matthews made a day of it by capturing the individual event as well, scoring most points, 46/60, on the problems put to her.

From previous page.

in those days policemen actually walked, alone, in the dead of night, several miles between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. — in fact many miles — through country lanes and byways, and even through the estates of deserted country mansions. I must admit, however, that we did not always walk. Sometimes we were allowed to use a bicycle: cycle patrol — when of course we travelled even farther.

But the tranquillity and the silence was out of this world! On windless nights you could stand and listen, and above the rush of blood pumping through your ears, distinguish the sound of water

running in the sewers beneath the road, and rabbits washing their faces. A beetle suddenly crashing its way over dead leaves sounded like elephants on the rampage in Amboseli. Sometimes the silence would be shattered by somebody talking in his sleep; it was extraordinary how those sacred or profane remarks uttered in the dead of night from the depths of a bed above could be clearly heard in the street below. And the snores of some people could be heard at the end of the road. But usually there was utter silence.

And there was variety. I don't mean the occasional sudden death, the drunk in the gutter, road accident, or the break-in. I am

referring to the changing weather and sky: inky black, or a blanket of stars, or moonlight almost as bright as day; dead calm or a howling gale, or something in between with a full moon racing through sailing clouds.

Looking round large country houses (which were temporarily unoccupied whilst their owners were away on holiday) was always interesting, and particularly at night. I used to practise ballroom dancing on the well-cut lawns, leaving long trails in the dew as I ran through the waltz, quickstep and foxtrot. Then there was the illicit dip in the swimming pool, and

See page 5



Mr. P. J. Matthews, Chief Constable of Surrey and Chairman of ACPO, hands the Queen a gift from the Police Service.



Tilbury goes up in the World



CID typist Mrs. Jo Alexander was wrestling with her new electric typewriter when The Law called. "At the old station we were all so close together," she said, "I don't know if I shall like being in an office on my own. I expect I shall soon have the door wedged open." Mrs. Alexander worked at the old station for 7 years as a CID typist.

IT MIGHT be thought that to change one's address from Dock Road to Civic Square denotes having gone up in the world. And when the world concerned is Tilbury and the old address was the elderly town police station, this would be true even if the new premises were a tent.

The new police station which opened for business in Tilbury's Civic Square on 9th May is no tent. Arguably it is the town's smartest civic building.

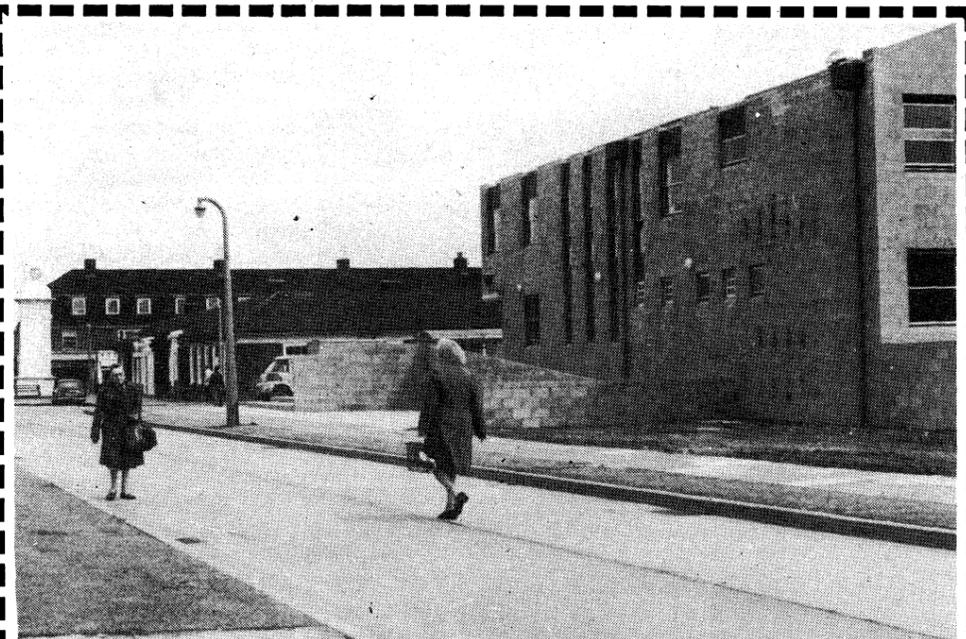
When The Law called, the station had been open but two days and Ch. Insp. Alan Cooper was still presiding over putting everything in its place.

There were still the inevitable moving in troubles: locks and catches not quite working, swish new electric typewriters — but they had only arrived the day before.

The degree of spaciousness is remarkable by itself regardless of any comparisons with the old place. Whether this might itself be a problem is anyone's guess.

In Dock Road the staff were all piled in cheek by jowl: in Civic Square by comparison they all have their separate boxes — and a possible lack of contact.

CID and uniformed staff are at opposite ends of the building, the Sgts' office is at the far end of the station from the front office, the typists have their own offices. But Traffic Warden Gladys "Toddy" Jones didn't want her separate office. So she moved her gear into the ladies' rest room — yes, they have one of these, too — and the Warden's Office is used for something else.



A VIEW of Tilbury's Civic Square, the architectural style of the new police station contrasting with the older buildings.

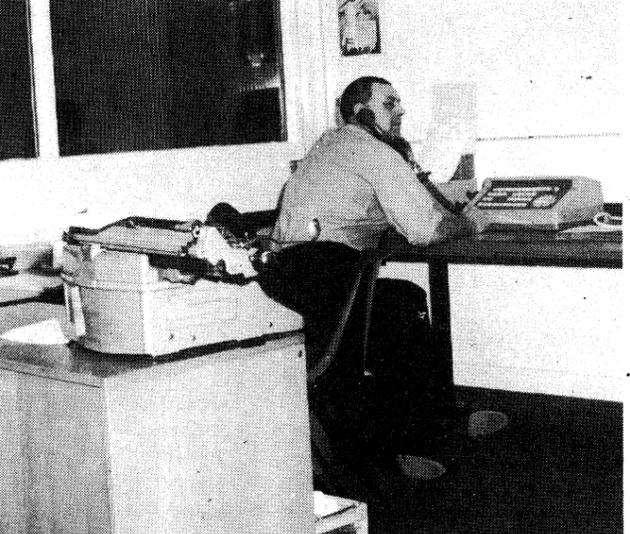
The station is carpetted throughout which saves polishing, and has a light and airy atmosphere.

Outside, instead of white concrete the

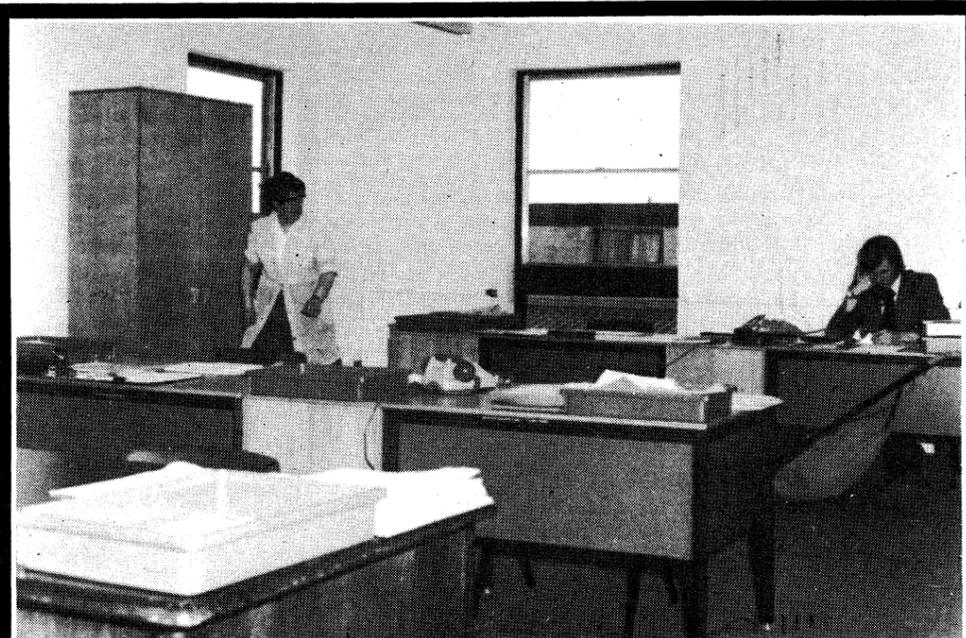
building is of a light ochre colour. The yard has adequate lock-up garages and stores.

A vast improvement, then, and one which has

made the working conditions of the officers in the County's southernmost, but least endearing outpost, a lot more bearable.



IN the general office Pc Ron Wall takes a phone call. The public enquiry counter is beyond the reeded glass screen behind the Constable.



THE vast expanse of the CID office where tidying operations by Warden-turned-cleaner Joan Collingwood must go on despite difficulties caused to De Mick Grover on the phone to CRO. "The best office in the Station," says Mick, and it is certainly huge compared to their former quarters.



SGT Harry Cook in charge of the Grays traffic section which moved from the Hathaway Road garage to the new station at Tilbury. "Our little office there was so damp that when we came on duty in the morning we had to hang our jackets in front of the fire to dry them out," he said.

Sir Douglas Bader inspects Sp

THE Special Constabulary Muster Parade took place at HQ on the 8th of May when the inspecting officer was Group Captain Sir

Douglas Bader. Competitions in the morning resulted in another win for Harlow Division who scored a total of 158pts in the road

accident practical test and oral questions on police duties and the highway code, well clear of second placed Chelmsford Division's 146½pts.

Clacton scored 140½ in the competition for the De Rougemont Cup, and Grays Specials 131.

In the afternoon the Muster Parade took place on the sports field under the direction of Sgt D. G.

Rensch, and presentations were served at the Training School hall. Long Service were presented to



VARYING moods displayed at the Specials' Muster Parade as the inspecting officer waits to enter the parade ground. From the left, Mr. J. Duke, Superintendent G. Markham, Special Commandant Mr. M. Giller, Sir Douglas Bader, and Mrs. L. M. Yarde Martin, Cadet School Matron and herself a war veteran.

S/CON Mrs. Beet, a member of the winning team, collects her trophy from Sir Douglas.



From page 3

coming nose to nose with a frog doing the same thing, whilst the harvest moon appeared to be balancing on the crests of the miniature waves. And the Cox's Orange Pippins, I remember, were extraordinarily tasty at that time of night. There was the odd occasion, of course, when an open window with the curtains blowing out in the wind indicated a burglary; but burglars rarely waited to see who was flashing a torch. It was then that poor old Detective Sergeant Green (or was it Clarke?) had to get out of bed once again.

It was extraordinary how keen one's eyesight became in the darkness. Any moving object not too far away could be easily noticed as it appeared blacker than black; and a flash of the torch would reveal a cat or dog, or even a fox or badger, eyes gleaming red in the sudden light.

Often, of course, it was difficult to keep awake, especially after a day spent in youthful exuberance and excesses. Eyelids seemed to weigh a ton and it was necessary to keep moving or do something to drive off the narcotic somnolence of night. Sometimes I used to sing or hum. My favourite lyric was "Star-dust" — of which you all know the opening line. Or I would recite. My favourite poem was Kipling's "If": "If you can fill the unforgiving minute with sixty secondsworth of distance run, yours is the earth and everything that's in it . . ." Night duty was the one part of a policeman's lot when it was sometimes very difficult to fill the minutes and the hours.

I remember once finding a deserted taxi, with the door open! And thought I would see how comfortable the back seat was. The next thing I knew was that I was being prodded into life by a certain Captain Osborne (there were several police constables who came from the commissioned ranks of the Services), who was saying: "Wakey, Wakey rise and shine. The Sergeant's coming, and you're feeling fine!" Dawn was breaking and the captain was on his way 'in' from the Wilds of Shenfield and Hutton.

Then there would be the midnight meeting or two or three policemen at a 'conference point', when my friend and fellow lodger in a squalid lodging in a street with the delightful name of "Rose Valley" would recite his latest ode reflecting the hazards of our bachelor existence: "One night for supper they had a bird; it might have been a partridge. But the cause of the death of that noble bird could never be a cartridge!" It was highly probable that Ron Rowlands would have become Poet Laureate if he hadn't changed his profession from Policeman to auctioneer.

Those were the days! I often feel that I could do another thirty and enjoy it.

Any vacancies for men of the world — instead of all those Cadets?

H. G. St. JOHN

their efforts can be gained otherwise? This is a bad line to take and is to be deplored. Pensioners, and more especially our widows who are considerable in numbers, would be in a very sad state were it not for the efforts of the Association to improve their position — a fact I am afraid which is often overlooked. We have been allotted advertising space in the programme for the Garden Party on July 14 and hope that this reminder will encourage non-members to take the plunge and enrol.

Objects

Frequently I am asked when endeavouring to sell N.A.R.P.O. to potential members "what are the objects of the Association?" I do my utmost to explain, with examples and I am glad to say that quite a number of new members have been enrolled, but one is left with that horrible feeling, in some instances, that all our efforts have fallen on stony ground. Why join the Association when the results of

THE Garden Party takes place at the Training School on July 14, 1977, a Thursday.

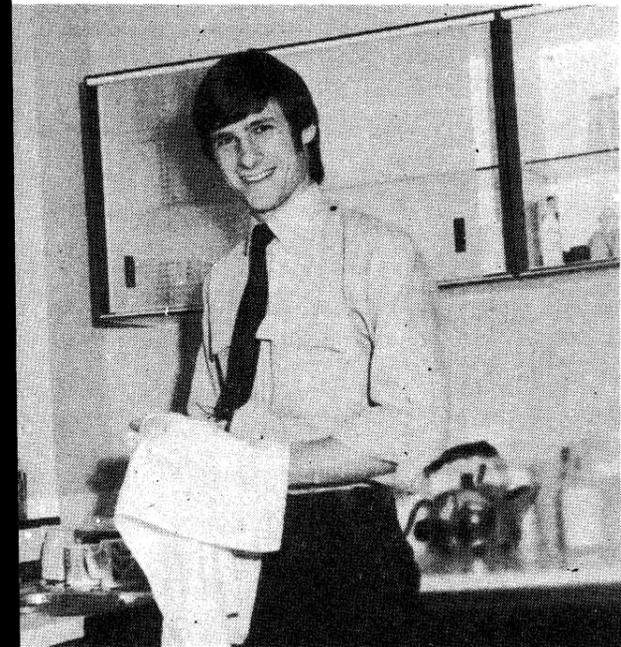
So far 570 have said they will come. The sun will shine, the band will play and the cadets will give positively their last performance.



SUB-Divisional Commander, Chief Inspector Alan Cooper seated in his office on Occupation Day +2 with his deputy, Inspector Vic Hunter.



GT Phil Millichip began his service at Tilbury and after moving away, returned to the old station some 18 months ago. He finds the new premises very spacious. "My office is a bit too far away from the general office and charge room," he says, "and it's the smallest in the station."



PROBATIONER constable Andy Masson washes up in the well appointed kitchen, a far cry from the old place in Black Road.

National Association of Retired Police Officers by Bert Brinkley

Comrades Luncheon

The Committee have met and decided the date of the luncheon will be Friday, October 7, 1977, at 12 noon for 12.30 p.m. This year the luncheon will be held at the County Hotel, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford (100 yards from Broomfield Road Corner) and the charge will be £3 for each member attending, this will leave a small balance which will be subsidised from Association funds. owing to increased hiring charges it was

Post for Retired Police Officer as Manager of Marks Tey Pet Stores. Wage £55 per week guaranteed to rise to £100 per week by 1979. Contact Mr. Weygang, Colchester 210153.

found impracticable to hold the luncheon at the Chancellor Hall as in previous years. The usual invitations will be sent out by the Secretary in due course.

Lottery

The response to the lottery has been greater than at first envisaged. This simple and modest lottery has possibilities of raising an authorised amount of £5,000 each week of which a permitted £2,400 could be available for prize money. The new lottery which commences on May 29 will be operated under the Revised Regulations of The Lottery Act, 1975, which removes the restrictions of membership, posting and advertising.

If the present trend continues, there is every possibility of the Housing fund benefiting to the tune of £120,000 per annum. This amount would greatly enhance the hopes of the Fund.

Income Tax

One of the recent Budget's proposals is that the age allowance for those over 65 years of age will be increased to become £1,080 for a single person and £1,695 for a married couple. This is a step in the right direction but the increase is far short of what could reasonably be expected. It is understood the new allowances are being applied after May 18 and maybe we shall see what the benefits, if any, the Chancellor has bestowed upon us senior citizens when the next pension cheque is received.

Representation

Members will appreciate the difficulties which the Association has encountered in seeking representation on the Police pensions negotiating body Committee E of the Police Council. It has been said that once pensioned, a pensioner's pension conditions are unchangeable and that there is, as a consequence, nothing to make any representation

most meritorious act by a Special during the previous year. Known as the Dooley Trophy it was presented to S/Con. S. J. Smith of Harlow who was set upon by several youths when he was assisting a drunk. Despite being abused and assaulted S/Con. Smith persisted in dealing with his attackers and when help arrived one was arrested for assault and obstruction and subsequently dealt with by the Harlow magistrates.

The parade was attended by senior officers from the Training School and by Mr. J. Duke, Acting Chief Constable.

Specials

er the M. C. J. O'Toole of Clacton, and S/Sgt. C. E. Cole of Basildon received a bar to his Long Service Medal, denoting 19 years service.

This year a new trophy was presented for the

Harlow team,



THE Chelmsford contingent on parade.



AT a short ceremony at HQ last month Mr. J. Duke presented Jenny Groves with retirement gifts from cadets and colleagues. Jenny had worked as breakfast cook at the Cadet School since it opened and hoped to stay until it closed in July. But on doctors advice she retired earlier though she was sad to leave before, seeing the last course through. Our picture shows her with the gifts.

Right on target for PAA title Essex place

4 in first 9

FOLLOWING his victory in the Regional .22 pistol contest, reported in The Law last month, Constable Phil Webb of Rowhedge travelled to Whitby for the national P.A.A. Championships. And there he was the man in form on the day, only dropping 11 points to win

The new P.A.A. Champion scored 97-95-97 in his three sequence shots. "I wasn't very happy about that 95" he told The Law afterwards, "but I felt a bit better about the 97 on the last series."

T. Tollan of Strathclyde was 2nd and K. Stanforth, R.U.C., 3rd. They tied on points only two behind Phil Webb, to show how close the contest was.

Phil Webb has been at Rowhedge three years. He is so keen on pistol shooting that, with several civilians, he has leased a piece of ground and built a range in the village.

Known as East Donyland Shooting Club it is one of few clubs in the area with its own turning targets. The club is very exclusive, 12 members, and entry is by invitation only.

Indeed in the shooting world Essex Police pistoliers do well. Not only Phil Webb, but also John Sutton and Graham Harvey, are in the national police training squad preparing for the European Police Championships taking place in 1979 — in



WITH the Cup and P.A.A. winners medal, Constable Phil Webb.

Britain.

The national police team will shoot against the Army in May and against the G.B. "B" team in July. And a good result

that day could lift the Essex Police sharpshooters into the G.B. "B" squad.

Just how accurate this smallbore shooting is can

be guessed from listening to Phil Webb who explains that "one click on the sight makes a difference of three millimetres at 25 yards."

And the whole team follow suit with excellent results

The pistol section gained some of their best results in the last winter league. Champions of Div 2 were the Essex A team of J. Sutton, G. Harvey and P. Webb. This team also topped Div 2 of the PAA postal Centre Fire League.

The 'B' team were 2nd in Div

3: J. Watson, G. French and D. Brooks. And in Div 6 the 'C' team were victorious, J. Page, A. Barratt, and D. Blackland.

Combat Meet

On Sunday, 8th May, the Pistol section competed at the annual Suffolk Combat meeting. The meeting being

open to Service members, Police and civilian clubs. There were some 112 competitors. Members of Essex Police gaining the following positions scored a hatful of wins. Indeed the only trophy not taken was that for the best civilian team! Victories were scored in

contests for the best Police Force team, the best Police Divisional team, the best Police individual and the best Service Pistol.

The team for this meeting was: J. Sutton, G. Harvey, D. Brooks, D. Perry, G. French, and P. Webb.

ONLY the more fanciful predictions of the walking squad could have matched reality as they inflicted crushing defeat on the opposition in the 1977 Barking to Southend race, the 50th in the series which began in 1921. Fittingly the referee for this year's race, Walter Batson, raced in that first contest.

The blue/white stripes of the Essex colours were always well in evidence up front: 5 in the first 15 at Rainham became 4 in 8 at Bread and Cheese Hill, and 4 in the first 9 at the finish. This was one of the most dominating team performances in the history of the race, certainly in recent years.

Peter Ryan kicked out hard at the start and got his head in front at Grays, his home station. He held the lead until Vange (21m) but then last year's winner and the record holder, Peter Hodgkinson, Met Police, took charge and marched to a 5 minute lead at the end with Ryan second, the best ever Essex placing and in a force record time.

For the first time Denis Sheppard spaced his effort right to the end and although a visit "behind the hedge" caused problems, he took 5th place in his best time to date.

A storming second half by Les Berry took him through the field to 8th place, passing John Hedgethorne among others, the latter having started fast in the hope of hanging on for a fast time. This failed but the time was still 10 minutes faster than in 1976 while Berry's was almost 18 mins. better.

But not only the team championship fell to Essex. Peter Ryan took the Critchley Cup as first provincial — outside London — walker, with Sheppard and Berry 2nd and 3rd. John Hedgethorne won the Veterans Cup for the 4th time and Tony Hindes was the first cadet to finish.

2nd, P. Ryan, 4h. 56m. 50s.
5th, D. Sheppard, 5h. 13m. 30s.
8th, L. Berry, 5h. 20m. 00s.
9th, J. Hedgethorne, 5h. 21m. 08s. (26th), T. Hindes, 5h. 57m. 00s. (37th), K. Skingley, 6h. 15m. 00s. 41st, M. Spellman, B. Daymond, 6h. 20m. 15s.

More success

THE A13 road had not been the only scene of success recently. As the team worked up steam for the big one they took other races in their stride capturing Essex medals in the process.

Team medals came in the Essex 20 miles championship and Denis Sheppard took the silver in the track 3000 mts. At least it was meant to be a track race though rain had reduced the surface to something more like a ploughed field. In the Essex Women's 3000 mts. championship, in better weather, Siobhan McAuley also finished 2nd. Steve Wilmott took the bronze in the Essex Junior 3000 mtrs. on May 4.

Against continental club opposition on April 30, Police did far better than they could have expected, running the slick Luxembourg squad very close and losing by only 3 points.

The walking season lasts 12 months so there can be no resting upon any laurels gained. Walkers were back on the track the week after the "Barking" as news came that Mike Dunion, who has been at Eynsham and missed all this local glory, has been selected for GB against Italy in July. He celebrated by retaining his Scottish 3000 mts. title in the goodish time of 13m. 15s. to gather a little glory of his own.

OTHER RESULTS

69 kms relay, Denmark, 9.4.77

25 kms. leg, 1st P. Ryan, 2.01.19 Force rec.; 20 kms. leg: 1st D. Sheppard, 1.43.45. Team (combined with a civilian walker) placed 1st.

Essex 20 miles: Chelmsford: 23.4.77 6th J. Hedgethorne, 3.01.06; 13th T. Hindes 3.24.48; 14th L. Berry 3.25.15; 18th K. Skingley 3.46.00. Team placed 2nd.

Chelmsford 20 kms: 30.4.77 2nd P. Ryan, 98.50; D. Sheppard, 102.55; 8th J. Hedgethorne, 104.39; 19th L. Berry, 114.06; 26th K. Skingley, 126.05. Teams placed 2nd.

Newham 5000 mts: 1.5.77 2nd D. Sheppard, 23.31; 8th J. Hedgethorne, 24.46; 26th S. Wilmott, 29.10.

Essex 3000 mts: Thurrock: 4.5.77 2nd D. Sheppard, 14.02.6; 7th J. Hedgethorne, 15.28.4; 9th S. Wilmott, 16.30; 12th P. Rice, 16.57; 14th D. Hindes, 17.30.8. (Wilmott 3rd junior). Essex Women's 3000 mts: Woodford: 14.5.77

2nd S. McAuley, 16.14.2; 4th L. Brewster, 19.05; 5th C. Poole, 19.27.6.

Southern Track comp: Hendon: 21.5.77 10,000 mts 3rd J. Hedgethorne, 52.46; 5000 mts 2nd P. Ryan, 23.45; 12th S. Wilmott, 30.27 (lap over).

Newham 3000 mts: 22.5.77 2nd D. Sheppard, 14.30.

Scottish 3000mts Championship: 21.5.77 1st M. Dunion, 13.15.

Beds-Luton Cup to Essex Collinge Cup for Basildon



CUP VICTORIES for Basildon Division and the Force Team set the scene for the last Soccer Roundup of the season.

Playing in the final of the Collinge Cup, (the Inter-Divisional competition),

holders, Southend Eastern. Basildon met this challenge with determination and above all a desire to win. At half-time they were 3-1 up and in the second half they increased this lead to 4-1. The goal scorers for

Madden 2. Inspector Tony Thomlinson, the manager of the Basildon side told the Law "It was a great achievement considering three of our first team side were missing, including Gammon, our top



THE POLICE promoted, international club 20kms. race at Chelmsford on April 30th, gets under way. The eventual winner was Lucien Faber (240) of Luxembourg who represented his country in the Montreal Olympics. Second was Constable Peter Ryan (201). The teamrace finished in the same order, Fola, Luxembourg, just beating Essex Police by 13-16pts. Also competing were Newham AC for England; Sarnia WC for Guernsey, Bad Kreuznach for Germany, and Grand Quevilly from France. Meeting Organiser was Constable Denis Sheppard — he finished 6th.

On Thursday, May 26, the Force met Hertfordshire in the final of the No. 5 District Invitation Cup, played at the Chelmsford City ground. It proved to be a very evenly balanced game on what was a very warm afternoon.

defensive error by Hertfordshire gave Peter Taylor just the chance he'd been waiting for and he shot past the advancing keeper to give Essex a 1-0 lead.

The second half was played at a very slow pace,

became obvious that it was just a question of Essex hanging on to their slender lead. This they succeeded in doing and were presented with the trophy by Superintendent George Tame, Chairman of the

MORE LETTERS

Memories

Dear Sir,
Your conducted tour of north Essex recalled an hilarious Bank Holiday scare back in the 1950s. Bear with me, gentlemen.

Thorpe-le-Soken's station-master telephoned that the level-crossing keeper at Great Bentley was powerless to close the gates because of the non-stop stream of cars all hell-bent for the briny. The bucket-and-spade express was approaching and every policeman was out of reach on the arterial road. However, a local train was waiting . . .

I could take a hint. Operating under a full head of steam, I left the jalousy in the station yard and clambered high on to the footplate, comforted by the reflection that one could always get a truss through the N.H.S. We made smartish time to Bentley, where the traffic was like bees in a hive.

Oh, the magic of a blue uniform and the face that scuppered a thousand trippers! After a few blood-curdling confrontations with the hoi polloi, the gates slammed just in time. The express thundered through with hundreds of exuberant larrikins demonstrating the time-honoured variations on the V-sign to the gendarmerie. A near thing.

Back at base, we toasted confusion to our enemies in B.R. brew helped to its feet by an infusion of corpse-reviver calculated to make

the dumb speak and hinds bring forth their young. Memo to Sir Jonathan: Delay in reporting deeply regretted. Please accept this the only intimation.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH JONES

Leaving Essex for Yarmouth

Dear Sir,
May I through your columns please express the gratitude of my wife and myself for the many cards, letters and other expressions of goodwill on my retirement from the Force. Also for the series of fine farewells and magnificent presents subscribed for by the various groups.

We shall shortly be moving to Bradwell near Great Yarmouth and will of course miss the regular contact with our many friends in Essex. However, our son and daughter will still live in the Chelmsford area so we shall make the journey fairly frequently when we hope to keep in touch with our friends and former colleagues. Additionally we shall look forward to seeing some of them at Bradwell.

Best wishes for the future of the Force and all who serve in it — whether they be Police or civilians.

R. E. PALMER

2a Avon Road
Chelmsford

Corrections

Dear Sir,
I thank you for the article in The Law and the complimentary things that were said concerning my service. I would take this opportunity of thanking you, and indeed all the members of the Force, for their kindness, consideration and helpfulness.

I would like to correct one part of the article as regards the formation of the Wellstead Sports Ground and the Southend Widows and Orphans Fund. I did not participate in their original formation; the then Deputy Chief Constable, Mr. C. Kent Sim, was the leading light concerning Wellstead Gardens, and ex Superintendent A. E. Wales was one of the originators of the Borough Widows and Orphans Fund. All my service I was connected with these two worthy ventures, and indeed arranged the sale of the sports ground and the formation of a Trust Fund, which, incidentally, was closed on April 20, 1977 and the majority of the remaining monies held on trust was donated to the Borough Widows and Orphans Fund.

E. A. EASLEA

A memorable retirement

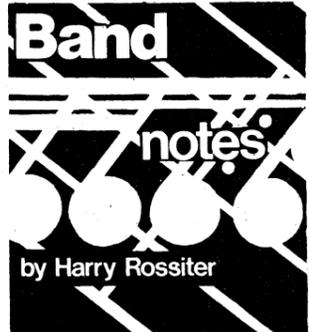
Dear Sir,
Through the media of 'The Law', I wish to thank everyone concerned with making my retirement from the Force such a memorable occasion.

It is said that the simpler the device to fulfil its function adequately, the better it is. So be it with words.

On behalf of myself and Marie, thank you all so very much for our presentation gifts and happy memories.

PETER & MARIE
(Fitz-John)

"East Leigh",
Halstead Road,
Eight Ash green,
Colchester, Essex.



by Harry Rossiter

SINCE its origin in 1966 the Essex Police Band has always been rather fortunate in its succession of Chairmen. The first was Chief Inspector Baker of HQ Traffic who has since passed on to higher things with the Suffolk Police but still maintains links with the band. His successors have always made it obvious that they did not intend that the post should be an idle one.

However, at the Bands' AGM on Wednesday September 29 1971 a new Chairman was elected to office — to commence a truly memorable term with the band. Superintendent Bob Palmer MM was the man of that moment and in the years that ensued his voice closely allied to his actions has guided us through many a crisis and sung with us in triumph.

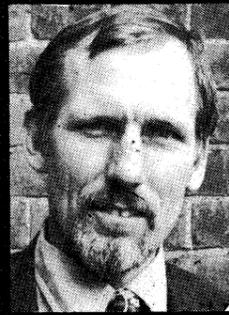
When recovering from a serious illness he came along to the last AGM so as not to miss such an important occasion. Even then if he thought that he was going to be replaced — he discovered that's not what we wanted. It was only retirement from the Force and removal from the area that finally caused Bob to give up his work with the Band.

On Wednesday April 27 1977 after Band rehearsals the Band bade farewell to its outgoing Chairman. Bob was presented with a silver cavalry trumpet, suitably engraved — a memento which I know he will treasure always. Mrs. Palmer was also present, as she so often has been at Band concerts. I'm sure I speak for all bandsmen in wishing Bob and his wife all the best for the future and thank you once again for the service so ably rendered to the Essex Police Band.

On the same occasion we also bade goodbye to Ted Jackson who has played with the band for the 7 years. Ted who played Tenor Horn is joining his married daughter in Australia. He flies from Heathrow on Saturday, May 28. Ted was another stalwart who was seldom absent from the ranks. He had an association with the Redcliffe Queensland Band in Aussie where he played with them

Continued on page 8

Federation Notes



by Jim Rodgers

Rent Allowance

A MEETING took place between The Chairman of the Joint Branch Board, Inspector Ted Davidson; The Assistant Secretary, Charlie Howlett; Assistant Chief Constable Mr. H. Taylor and the Chief Executive and Clerk to the Police Authority on 9th May 1977 concerning the selection of a new Force Selected House for calculating Maximum Limit Rent Allowance for the Essex Police. After what I am given to understand was a "lively meeting", a decision was taken to put forward 42 New Park Road, Benfleet for this purpose. The acceptance of this house now depends on the next meeting of the Police Committee, after which it will be valued by the District Valuer to set the new Force Maximum Rent Allowance. When this valuation is known, the Housing Committee will decide whether it is in the interests of the Force to go over to the Metropolitan Multiplier System or remain as we are at present.

Flat-Rate Allowance

Recently I sent out a purple coloured questionnaire concerning an income tax allowance against expenditure on boots and socks or stockings. These were addressed to every tenth officer of the federated ranks on the pay roll. To date I have received one hundred duly completed forms. Could the other hundred or so officers please expedite the return of their forms — I originally asked for them back by 10th May — as soon as possible.

Residential Courses

About a fortnight ago there appeared in the Police Review a letter from an officer who had successfully negotiated an allowance against tax for expenses he incurred whilst travelling home from a residential course, the cost of the journeys not being reimbursed by his Police Authority. Accordingly I wrote to Gateshead 3 and have received the following letter back . . .

Dear Sir,
Residential Courses
Thank you for your letter of 3 May 1977.

By concession, where a policeman necessarily incurs expenditure as a result of attending a full-time course of study lasting four weeks or more then he will be allowed for income tax purposes the cost of the weekly journeys not reimbursed by the Police Authority. I would emphasise that the course must be compulsory, must last at least four weeks and that only the cost of travelling to and from his home at weekends would be allowable. Expenses claims can be accepted in respect of those expenses incurred after 5 April 1971. Any of your members who wish to make such a claim should state the period of the course, confirm that attendance was compulsory, state how many journeys were made to and from his residence, how many of these journeys were paid for by the Police Authority and details of the expenses claimed.

Yours faithfully
R. A. Pim
HM Inspector of Taxes

As I see it, any officer who has attended Command Courses, Wakefield Detective Courses, Initial Training Courses, Special Bramshill Courses, and the like can claim subject to the provisos laid down above by the Inspector of Taxes.

Additionally, I can see that an Instructor at one of the Training Centres might have reason to try to

apply the same criteria to his journeys home on weekends. It must be worth a try at least.

Telephone Facilities

I regret to say that the Storacall answering machine fitted to the Federation Office phone, developed a fault which effectively erased each message left on it whilst I was absent from the office. Arrangements have been made for a new machine to be installed as soon as possible. In the meantime, if anyone left a message and did not get a reply, I can assure them that it was because of this fault rather than laxness on my part. I can only hope that the new machine will be free of Gremlins!

Commutation of Pensions

Once again a rumour is circulating that commutation is coming to an end; it seems that John Pardoe's attempts to stifle increases in public service pensions, and the advent of the new national pension scheme in 1978 lend apparent fuel to the fires which kindle this rumour. If it were only the Police that enjoyed the facility to commute a portion of their pension, then it would be reasonable for us to believe that Government would try to do us out of it — after all they try to cut back everything else which we enjoy! But it is a fact that local government, Fire Service, civil servants and many other private pension schemes not only have the facility; in some cases commutation is compulsory.

The Local Government for instance have a lump sum equal to 25 per cent of their pension paid on retirement, and their pension is adjusted accordingly. Fear not, commutation is with us for ever — and it will remain optional — for us anyway. Whilst we are at it there is no truth in the rumour that the lump sum will become taxable either — but one can't be too sure of that in the current economic climate!

Force Welfare Officer

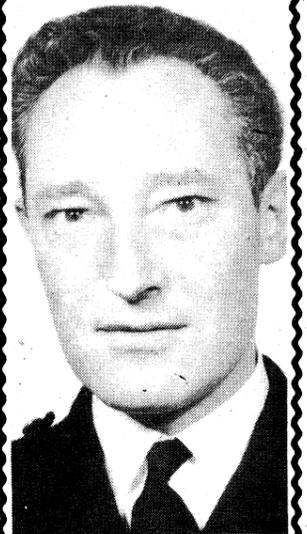
In the last issue, much was said about Edgar Easlea the retiring Welfare Officer, and I did not comment. I would like to remedy that now by wishing him the very best of good fortune, much time and good health to enjoy his new way of life. I would like to thank him, most sincerely on behalf of all the members of the Essex Police Federation for his selfless and dedicated work on their behalf, both as Force Welfare Officer and previously when he was a Federation Representative. The job he created brought him many friends, and I know many looked upon him as a guardian angel — especially the pensioners and widows — well, perhaps he was. But most of all he was a man who cared about people.

It will be impossible to replace him. But a man has been chosen to take on the job he has vacated — Charlie Howlett. Charlie has for many years been the Traffic Constables Branch Board representative, and was recently Treasurer and Assistant Secretary of the Joint Branch Board. I know he realises that the job he has taken on is a way of life, rather than work. But he also realises that he will have to earn the confidence, not only of his prospective clients, but also those in command of the Force. This cannot be achieved overnight, and I would ask that he be given all the assistance and encouragement necessary to do the office justice.

Police Pay Review 1977

I left this till last so that you would read the rest. I was hoping that I could report details of the settlement that the Home Secretary has imposed forcibly onto the Police Service. But the fine points are not available at this time, so I will make a fairly educated guess that they coincide with the "Governments Final Offer" which was made in April of this year. This offer consisted of £2.30 for an officer on joining plus 53 pence as an 'average overtime allowance'; up to £3.78 for a Sergeant with 6 years service, plus 39 pence average overtime allowance, they and Inspectors and Chief Inspectors were limited to a ceiling of £4.00. No fringe benefits were included with this offer, but there were forward commitments into Phase Three which might affect 5 per cent of the membership at the most, but certainly no more than 5 per cent. I had a letter forwarded to me recently by a Member of Parliament which enclosed a letter from the Home Office which clearly set out the fact that as a "fringe benefit" in Phase Three, the Police Service could have a review of its negotiating machinery, and the constitution of the Police Federation. I am sure you will all believe these to be real benefits!

Rayleigh



WHEN Rayleigh Police Station opens soon as DHQ for Southend Western Division the man in charge will be Chief Supt. Frank Shepherd, recently promoted on the retirement of Mr. Farnsworth. Mr. Shepherd was formerly deputy commander of the division.



IPA notes

A FINAL reminder to all members about the disco being held at Chelmsford Police Station on Friday June 3. Tickets are still available, but speed is essential if you want them.

A new I.P.A. house is opening in Crewe, which will be handy for persons travelling to Scotland. It opens this summer. The address is "Oaklands" 25A Crewe Road, Haslington, Crewe, Cheshire.

It is half a detached house, and has 4 bedrooms, lounge, kitchen and the usual offices. There is a garage for cars and enough space to park caravans.

Person to contact will be Bob Brehut at Crewe. The house is situated on the A534 between Crewe and the M6.

MONEY SAVER

MRS. M. M. BELL, who works in HQ Information Room has a cash-saving, expenses-sharing idea for someone this summer:

"Would anyone travelling to Paris, or further south, this August, like a travelling companion to share expenses?"

A Teenage girl (Mrs. Bell's daughter) speaking French, with previous travel, shopping and conversational experience in France, would be very pleased to hear from you at Chelmsford 467600."

999 from "Norman in Southend" who said, with admirable brevity, "I think Southend Police are absolutely marvellous especially your sexy women officers," and then rang off.

Well done, girls, you've one fan at least.

The Law Shop

FOR SALE: Volkswagen 1600 Variant Estate, 'K' reg.; colour white; 46,000 miles; one owner; offers around £780. P.c. 1082 Billericay. 'A' shift.

'ZEPPELIN' SMITH

THE OLDEST Force pensioner, Ex-Sgt. Charles (Zeppelin) Smith died on 22nd April aged 94.

Zep Smith won fame, and his name, at Wigborough in World War I when a German zeppelin on its way home from a bombing raid, was hit and came down in the village. Having destroyed his craft the German commanding officer formed his men up and marched off — until they met Constable Smith who accepted their surrender and marched them away to be handed into military custody.

This exploit earned him more than just the name. Zeppelin which has lasted 60 years. The Chief Constable was so impressed he promoted him there and then. Charles Smith was a widower and lived at Dunmow.

Athlete's good start

IT IS essential to get off to a good start in any league competition and this is certainly what the Essex Police athletics squad did on 7th May.

In the first round of the Southern League, Div. 4, police comprehensively crushed the opposition, only dropping 20 of a possible maximum 180 points to go top of the league. There is a long season ahead but this morale booster could go a long way to ensuring promotion.

In many events Police secured maximum points, winning both A and B strings, and in many others only one point was lost. And just to rub it in, at the end of the afternoon both relays were won easily.

On home ground at Melbourne, Chelmsford, Police always had more athletes than the other clubs and had fresh runners for the relays.

Top scorers for the home team were Cadet Chris Vale and veteran Sgt. Bert Wallace who each secured 19 points. Team scores were Police 160, Victoria Park 124, Milton

Keynes 88, Diss 62, Tendring 43.

Police times and places (A string first): 100m 2nd C. Vale 12.3, 1st T. Mildinhall 12.4; 200m 1st C. Vale 24s, 1st C. Odell 25.3; 400mts 4th A. Watson 59.1; 1st K. Nowell 58s; 800mts 1st A. Hayman 2:7.1; 4th T. Hindes 2:25.9.

1500m 3rd A. Hayman 4:25.9; 1st A. Volves 4:26.6; 5000m 1st G. Butler 16:24.6, 1st V. Murphy 17:17.4; 3000m Steeplechase 2nd G. Butler 10:32.2, 1st K. Skingley 11:40.6.

110m hurdles, 1st C. Odell 18.3, 1st T. Pierce 22.2; 400m hurdles 3rd V. Mullender 65.2, 1st K. Nowell 68.2.

Pole vault, 2nd W. Moore 2.68m, 1st G. Barrett 2.30m; High jump, 2nd T. Mildinhall 1.75m, 1st C. Odell 1.70m; Long jump, 1st C. Vale 6.04m, 3rd T. Pierce 4.82m; Triple, 1st C. Vale 12.79m, 1st T. Pierce 11.42m.

Shot, 1st A. Wallace 10.65m, 3rd G. Clarke 7.64m; Discus, 1st A. Wallace 29.95m, 2nd K. Skingley 22.20m; Javelin, 1st T. Mildinhall 52.92m, 1st A. Wallace 44.68m; Hammer, 2nd A. Wallace 28.86m, 2nd G. Clarke 23.01m.

Relays (4 x 100) Mildinhall, Odell, M. Jackson, Vale, 47.8; (4 x 400) Watson, Nowell, Mullender, Hayman, 3m 45.3s.

FORCE ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Thursday, June 9, 1977

MELBOURNE STADIUM, CHELMSFORD

INTER-DIVISIONAL TUG-O-WAR

First event at 1.45 p.m.

DIVISIONS are requested to inform the Championships secretary at H.Q. ext. 216 of the approximate numbers attending by Friday, June 3.

Men's events are: 100, 200, 400, 800, 1,500, 3,000 walk, 3,000 steeplechase, medley relay, shot, discus, javelin, hammer, long-jump, high-jump.

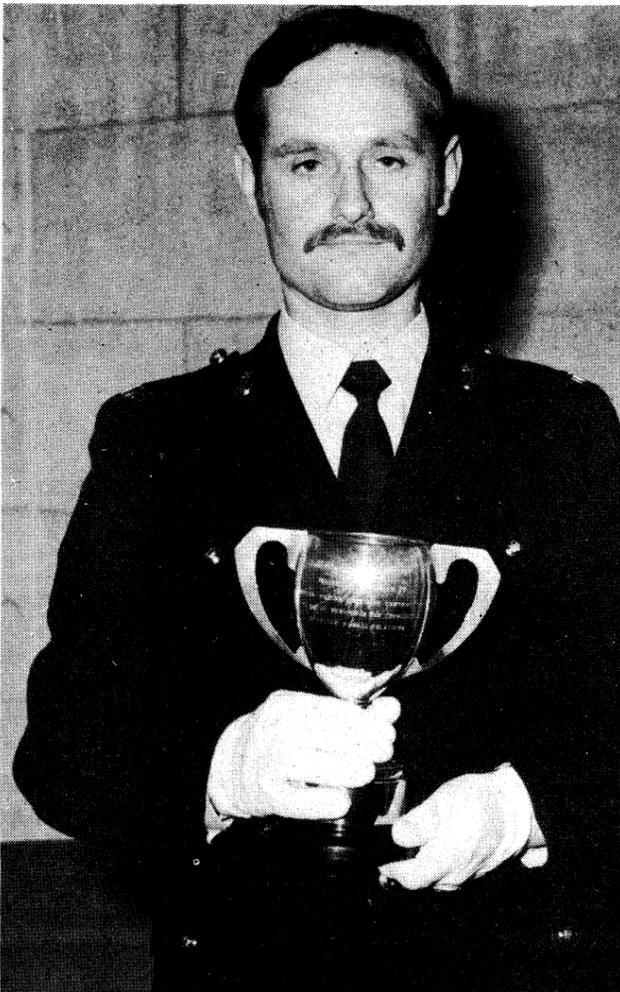
Women's events are: 100, 800, 2,000 walk, sprint relay, shot, long-jump.

Scoring is 4, 3, 2, 1 pts for the first four in each final.



SHARING the Wilson Trophy, Constables Terry Kelly, left, and Ricky Batkin.

Trophies presented at County Hall



SCOUTER Chris Lay with the Millard Trophy.

AT A ceremony at County Hall on April 25 the Wilson and Millard Trophies were handed to officers adjudged to be supreme, last year, in the fields of bravery and public relations. The Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Sir John Ruggles-Brise, made the presentations.

The Wilson Trophy is for the most meritorious act performed in the course of duty. For the pursuit and arrest of two men, one of whom repeatedly pointed an automatic pistol at them clicking the mechanism, Constables Terry Kelly and Ricky Batkin, stationed at Basildon, were awarded the cup jointly.

After his arrest the gunman was found to have ammunition in his possession.

P.c. Chris Lay of Stanway Traffic, is Assistant District Commissioner of the Colchester West Scout Section. This admin. job as well as active participation in Scouting, as a canoeing instructor for instance, involves a great deal of his time.

He received the Millard Trophy for having made the greatest contribution to service in the community in the past year.

Awards for fire rescue



WHEN FIRE broke out in a barn at Bowers Hall Farm, Bowers Gifford, last August, firemen arrived to fight the blaze. One fireman, Sub-officer Jim Whitwell found himself trapped in the blazing building.

On their arrival at the scene P.c.s Roy Buckley (in uniform) and Michael Counce, both stationed at Benfleet, went to the fireman's aid. Their first rescue attempt was thwarted by the flames and dense smoke.

Nevertheless they tried a second time, crawling into the barn on their hands and knees they managed to reach the unconscious fireman and drag him to safety.

Now the bravery of those officers has been recognised and at Billericay Court, magistrate Mr. Rathbone Dunnico presented the duo with their awards — framed certificates from the Society for the Protection of Life from Fire.

Information leads to sentence for hoaxers

The Essex County Standard award for the Colchester area has been awarded to the wife of a serving soldier.

On March 26, 1976, three youths left a parcel at the Castle Museum, Castle Park, Colchester, which appeared to be a bomb deposited there by members of the I.R.A. Whilst travelling on a bus in Colchester the wife of a

serving soldier noticed two youths who because of their conduct and conversation she regarded as suspicious. Later the same day she saw these youths leave the Castle Park at the time of the bomb hoax.

The information she was able to give the police and particularly her positive identification of one of the youths was instrumental in

bringing about the arrest and conviction of the offenders. Three youths were subsequently sentenced to imprisonment at Chelmsford Crown Court, but without the assistance given it is unlikely that the Police would have achieved success in this matter.

For security and personal reasons the informant did not wish for any publicity but asked if any award could be donated to the Soldiers, Sailors and Airman's Families Association. To this the Essex County Standard readily agreed.

Continued from page 7

whilst on holiday in November 1974. We presented Ted with an inscribed plaque as a memento of his time with us.

Now what of our activities? We went to Billericay School on Friday April 22 and had us a fine concert. It was, as you may know a Memorial Concert to the late Chief Inspector George Manning, and was well attended.

On Tuesday May 3 we played at the Southend "Fight Crime" Exhibition held in the Kursaal.

The following Sunday afternoon the Band provided music for the Annual Muster of the Specials. The Inspecting Officer was Sir Douglas Bader CBE DSO DFC, and his visit made this a most memorable occasion.

On Saturday May 14 the band played along with the Chelmsford Festival Orchestra at the closing concert of the Chelmsford Arts

Festival in the Civic Theatre, Chelmsford. The audience was not the usual seat filling one we are accustomed to and I think the Festival deserves more support as it is an outlet for many forms of artistic talent — brass band music included.

We have three engagements in June. Two visits to Spains Hall, the beautiful home of the Lord Lieutenant, Sir John Ruggles-Brise. The first visit on the 19th is for the benefit of the British Legion Essex Standards Jubilee celebrations. So we get involved in the topical event of 1977. Our second visit is on the 27th.

The High Sheriffs Garden Party completes our bookings for June on the 29th.

Finally on July 14 the band will be playing at the pensioners' garden party, as usual at HQ. Look forward to seeing you there in the meantime — Good Listening.

Continued from page 1

but a few minutes later the van was driven away towards the scrapyards.

Mr. Bliss passed his information to the police and was later able to provide a full description of the two men. As a direct result of his help the police were able to arrest two men who later were convicted of burglary and theft of a motorcycle.



THE LATEST batch of recruits arrived at their stations the same week as this issue. They are left to right, front row, M. Dunion posted to Witham; H. M. Letchford, Canvey; S. T. Watts, Ockendon; T. L. Earl, Billericay; R. A. Harvey, Westcliff.

Second row: P. Dodd, Harwich; I. P. Heffron, S. F. Kettle, and R. N. Day, all Colchester; S. F. Jarvis, Rayleigh; C. J. Arnold, Basildon.

Back row: K. R. Miller and A. A. Diver, Corringham; R. V. Mason, Chelmsford; M. C. Carter, Maldon; V. Mullender, Epping; P. A. Atkinson, Ockendon; P. G. Sheffield, Harlow; G. R. Stewart, Southend; J. P. Roche, Leigh.