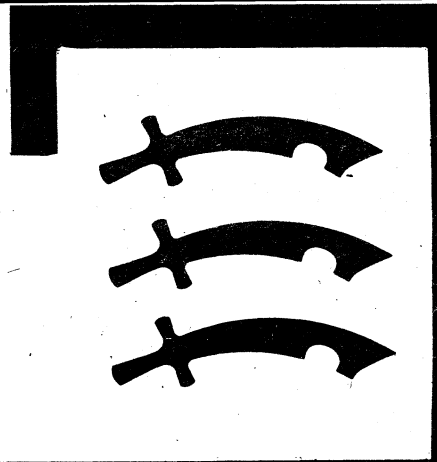




THE LAW

November 1977 No. 99



The Newspaper of the Essex Police

Queens Commendations for three



THREE members of the C.I.D. were honoured at H.Q. by the Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Sir John Ruggles-Brise on October 20, in recognition of their bravery in disarming and arresting a man after a shooting incident at Leigh-on-Sea last year.

Pictured chatting after the investiture are Sir John, left, and from right, Sgt. Roy Donovan, Sgt. David Bright, and Ch. Insp. Peter Croxford.

In his speech the Lord Lieutenant said that when he read of Officers' bravery he was convinced that the police were a very special case. He went on to thank members of the force for all their help and kindness during his 20 years as Her Majesty's Lieutenant in the County. Sir John will retire next August.

More pictures and story, back page: pictures by Cadet Steve Wilmott.

Bennett and Peel Trophies



TOP PROBATIONER of the year, winner of the Bennett Trophy, is P.c. Andy Odell stationed at Brentwood. In the competition, held on October 31, Andy topped both the written and oral tests. He is a former Cadet of the Year and a member of Force athletics, rugby and first aid teams.

The Peel Trophy for the highest marks in the exam to Sgt. went to Sgt. Paul Stanley, promoted, perhaps on the strength of his exam effort and now an instructor at Driving School. With 12 years service he found it difficult to study previously because of his 3 young children. But 1976 saw a determined effort. So did 1977, when he tied for top place in the exam to Inspector.

New Rent-aid agreed

Discussions on "multiplier system" to go on

THE long campaign over maximum limit rent allowance, waged by the Federation since 1975, showed results last month when the valuation of the agreed house, 42 New Park Road, South Benfleet, was announced.

This gave the premises a rental value of £884 per annum, a figure which persuaded the Federation to immediately apply to the "multiplier" system of calculating rent aid. It was in 1975 that the Federation gave notice to the Police Authority that when the time was right, that is when a majority of members would benefit by the change, they would seek to go over to the new way of calculating the allowance.

By the multiplier system there will be no need for individual premises to be valued. Weekly rent allowance is calculated by taking the rateable value which is then multiplied by 2.78 (this will be the Essex "multiplier"). The amount of rates and water rates actually paid is then added and the sum is divided by 52.1666 to give the weekly amount.

Maximum will not be achieved by all.

The figures accepted by the Federation in respect of the Benfleet house, were rentable value £884; rateable value £318, giving a rent allowance maximum of £21.79 against the present maximum of £12.68. This revolutionary increase was enough to ensure that members would not suffer by the change to the new system.

The Federation having informed the Chief Constable that they accepted the valuation, he has now informed the District Valuer of this. It was agreed that the figures would be forwarded to Home Office for scrutiny prior to the meeting of the Police Authority in December. Provided that all details can be agreed in advance there should thereafter be no delay in implementing the new rates.

Says Jim Rodgers, J.B.B. Secretary, "Of course £21.79 will be the maximum. Not everyone who is on the present maximum will necessarily be on the new one. But single men will benefit right away because they get half of the maximum."

Essex now among highest.

Over the years Essex Police, who formerly held a place in the top ten rent allowances of the 43 forces in the country, fell so far behind as to be among the bottom ten.

"Once ratified, this increase will put us into the top 3 or 4," says Jim Rodgers, "which is only right when you think of house prices in Essex." Neighbouring forces' maxima are Metro £22.50, Kent £22.00 and Suffolk £16.40.

Some comparisons showing the difference between the old system and the new have been made. For example if your rateable value is £250 and you pay £181.75 rates and £21 water rates, you will draw £17.26 per week under the multiplier system as opposed to £11.89 before.

Figures of £190 rateable value plus £133 and £15.96, would yield £13.00 under the new system instead of £10.35.

IN THIS ISSUE



DOG TRIALS page 4: Kimba, handled by P.c. Keith Simpson, waits his turn.



NEW CROWD control methods featured on page 3.

FEDERATION notes on Page 5.

SPORT on Page 6

NEW ESSEX command course on Page 7.

Ediview

7th November 1977

Smokescreen

THE so-called pay settlement leaves neither side with its reputation untarnished. After all they had said beforehand the Federation gave in to promises and ten per cent: Mr. Rees might just as easily have imposed ten per cent on the morning of September 1. We do not view the pay review with much optimism either, since it is a face-saving smokescreen behind which the two sides can retire to lick their wounds. We await the outcome with interest but little confidence.

He wants midgets

WE WILL never be convinced that Members of Parliament do not live in Cloud Cuckooland. One of them, Mr. Gwilym Roberts thinks that the height standard for police should be removed because it prevents half of the population from joining the Police.

"This is a ludicrous state of affairs when you consider that forces are undermanned and that brain not brawn is becoming the order of the day in police forces," he says with a string of clichés. He must either be sadly out of touch with reality or must think we are barmy.

Has he not noticed Grunwick, Lewisham or Ladybug? Does he imagine that brown is not needed at these left wing festivals? Did he not see that the most under-sized of constables we do have, mainly women, were almost entirely absent from these parties?

But wait. He probably does think we are barmy. Because Mr. Roberts is entitled Labour Cannock. People of a certain political persuasion have an ideological commitment to reducing the height standard so that ever smaller Bobbies turn up at Grunwick. When the average height of constables is down to five feet they will not see over the pickets' shoulders let alone hold them back.

Waste of paper

CAN IT BE that the financial plight of police officers is unknown to the Treasurer's Office? Has all the Federation's campaigning not sunk in at the paymaster's department?

If the package which arrived with the October pay slips is anything to go by the Salaries Office have yet to hear about the present crisis. This surprise packet contained three printed leaflets, all urging the recipient to spend — or rather save — more money.

We watched the reaction. The leaflets went straight into the waste bin, along with the nice new envelope they arrived in. At a time when many of the force are at their wits end to make ends meet this exercise was no more than a waste of paper.

A special case

IS THIS COLUMN a Special Case? A strongly worded recommendation to this effect is to be sent to HQ. Factors to be taken into account are increased productivity achieved in face of ever greater need of long words — or should we say the escalating incidence of situations necessitating superabundant multisyllabic verbiage — and increasing violence against the English language in other columns nearby.

There was, for example, a serious attempt to infiltrate "in the pipeline", "grassroots", "a fine tooth comb", "no way", "at all times", "in lieu of", and "the media" from Letters close by and only by a degree of vigilance worthy of "Special Case" status was the invasion repelled.

What is likely to be the outcome of this recommendation we cannot say. But sources close to the cabinet, a joiner and French polisher of our acquaintance, say that the left and right are unlikely to see eye to eye in this area at this moment in time.

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.



Special thanks

Dear Sir,
I would like to express my thanks, through the columns of 'The Law', to all those members of the Special Constabulary who endured interviews, entered personal details on questionnaires and wrote informative letters in order to assist me in the completion of an undergraduate project. Survey questionnaires were

distributed to personnel whose names were selected entirely at random from the central Special Constabulary register. Participation was voluntary and I am, therefore, all the more delighted to record that the response rate was very high.

At the time of writing the replies received are still being processed. Although, as might be expected, some of the information obtained is predictable, most of it is interesting and there have been some unexpected results to date.

Ultimately, it is hoped, one copy of the completed project will be made available for examination by members of the Special Constabulary who are interested in the outcome.

DAVID TAYLOR
Inspector,
(Essex University)

Headquarters,
Chelmsford.

Brief thanks

I write on behalf of the Grays Panda Club to thank the Southend Ladies Club for a very nice social evening on 16th September.

MRS. GERONON

Grays.

Misquoted by the Press

Dear Sir,

May I take this opportunity of thanking all those who sent me good wishes on my retirement from the force. Despite what was printed in the press I am not disillusioned with the force. I was asked if I was disenchanted, I said, "No", asked if I was disgruntled, I again said, "No", so I was described as disillusioned. I suppose everyone has to have some sort of category. My new boat has now arrived and if anyone wants to try a trip now that the cod and whiting are in, perhaps they would care to give me a ring on Maldon 53596. I shall always be pleased to see old faces and even a few of the younger ones.

DON HARMER

230 Farnbridge Road,
Maldon,
Essex.

Thanks for the good times

Dear Sir,

May I through your columns say farewell to the many friends and colleagues with whom I have worked over the last eleven years. It is with considerable regret I am now leaving the Force but in all conscience I am no longer prepared to subject my family to the standard of living decreed by the pathetic level of income we now endure. The decision was not taken lightly at a point nearly half-way through my service but the irresponsibility of successive governments and the absence of hope for any truly realistic future settlements (and I mean 104 per cent plus) have made things much easier.

Nevertheless, the past holds no regrets: thanks for all the good times — I wouldn't have missed them.

MICK STEPHENSON
(P.C. 1215)
Saffron Walden Traffic.

The murder of P.c. Gutteridge

Dear Sir,

How right and fitting that Ex-P.S. 4 Bill Borley should remind us of the tragedy of the murder of Constable George William Gutteridge at Howe Green fifty years ago. I well remember the keen interest of my family and others at the time in the detection and pursuit of Browne and Kennedy.

Soon after joining "the damned" at Tilbury I frequently met with Ex-Constable Sydney James Taylor who was then living there in retirement and heard from him the facts as he knew them of the affair. Many years later at Canvey Island I met up with Ex-Constable John (Jack) Bloxham, who was the first Police Officer on the scene, having been roused from his bed at the Havering Police House by the Carrier who had discovered the body earlier. Jack recounted very clearly the scene that he met with on his arrival at Howe Green. After first ensuring that he left a reputable person at the scene to preserve it for close examination, he had to travel several miles to the nearest telephone with which to raise the alarm at Romford Police Station. He recounted that he had the very greatest difficulty in persuading the duty Constable there to allow him to speak to the Superintendent, as it was well before 9 a.m., and the time that that particular worthy attended his office. After Jack had been questioned as to how he knew that P.C. Gutteridge was dead, he was then asked, "Where have you removed the body to?"

Fortunately for Jack, he was wise as to that pit fall and having recounted his verbal report, he was told to return to the scene and wait. Subsequently the Detective Inspector from Romford attended and most of the subsequent events are now history.

To his dying day Jack always carried with him his copy form of report asking permission to be absent from his beat to attend the Central Criminal Court to give evidence at the subsequent trial of Browne and Kennedy.

Incidentally Jack's widow, Hilda, a very lively septuagenarian still resides on Canvey Island and I

made it my business during the morning of Tuesday, September 27, this year to call and see her. She readily remembered that same date in 1927 and, although fifty years older, added several of her little reminiscences of the matter.

Ex-568.

Spiritualism

Referring to the tribute to P.C. Gutteridge the following true account may be of interest.

On my honeymoon in 1938 my wife and I stayed in a Cornish Hotel where also a Clergyman was a guest who recounted the story of how, when he was a Prison Chaplain he ministered to both Kennedy and Brown at their executions for the murder of P.C. Gutteridge.

Some years later he was invited and accepted an invitation to a seance. He was not a believer in spiritualism and attended only as a matter of interest, but during the evening the medium 'came through' and spoke in the manner of Kennedy, uttering the same cursing and threats that he would haunt the Chaplain whenever he had the opportunity, as Kennedy had uttered before he died.

No person could have possibly known what Kennedy had said at the material time as the Chaplain of course, had never divulged it.

The incident greatly disturbed the Chaplain, who begged all the other Hotel guests never to indulge in spiritualism unless they were fully aware of what they were undertaking.

W. J. MAYHEW
Ex P.w. R11
Epping

4, Huntington Close,
Cranbrook
Kent. TN17-3BJ.

Painter

Dear Sir,

I read the story about P.C. G. W. Gutteridge, Kennedy and Browne Murder, 1927, in your September issue with great interest.

I met J. Browne in the summer of 1926. At that time I lived at Beaton

Faces behind the voices

AS HERALDED by the brief announcement in another issue, The Law is being produced under different arrangements. The Public Relations Office, Foretold in Force Orders, has come into being and as well as producing this newspaper is supposed to be dreaming up stunts to give the public the right impression of the police. The same office deals with Force Sport.



Susan Hulls



Joan Eason

Those who take the trouble to telephone HQ ext. 216 will be greeted by the dulcet tones of Susan Hulls who, poor thing, is tied to the office always prepared to be helpful to callers. Susan prepares the Sports Circular each week (items for insertion by AM, Fridays, please). She has worked at HQ since leaving school and moved to The Law at the beginning of this year.

Or you might speak to the team's newest acquisition, Sgt. Joan Eason who moved from Basildon where she was a shift and station sergeant since transferring to this force from Metro as a Sergeant. Earlier still she was a member of Lancashire Constabulary. Joan has already spent a lot of time on the phone to divisions about Force Sport.

You are unlikely to speak to the rest of the staff — gone out for a stroll.

Better never than late

Dear Sir,

The 20th September, 1979, will be a sort of special day for me. For one thing it will be my wife's twenty-ninth birthday (again) and I myself will have completed twenty-two years service (good fortune willing). I noticed on "orders" today that Her Majesty has been pleased to grant Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to certain members of the force. Below the entry was a footnote (which seems to occur on every such entry lately) that the Home Office had indicated that the medals would not arrive for some while.

It occurred to me that someone has had twenty-two years to plan for each of these events. How is it that someone seems to wait until nearly the last moment to order (or deliver) the said medal, and that they are never going to be on time. As a casual observer over the years it seemed to me that as a

medal the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal has often been handed out in a rather cavalier fashion. Tapper Watts got his through the internal post in a re-addressed envelope, with an admonition to send six shillings and sixpence (or some such sum) if he wanted a case for it. A pernicious Borough practice!

It has since occurred to me that there is a way out of this apparent impasse. Why not choose a few malcontents who can be upset with impunity, keep us waiting permanently, then give ours to someone on time. Seriously though folks, is it not time to either discontinue the issue, or to treat it as a just and honourable reward and to hand it out (engraved) on time.

With best regards to your fair new assistant.

FRED FEATHER

Rayleigh Police Station.

We regret that other letters have been held over due to pressure of space

New aids to counter mob violence

WITH VIOLENCE and disorder on the streets increasing in frequency and intensity week by week a new urgency has crept into crowd control training in Essex Police. After the prolonged problems of Grunwick and the one-day events at Lewisham and Ladywood it was obvious that it was only a matter of time before Essex had to take a turn at this sort of thing.

So a working party was set up to look into matters. It was of the ideal size — three. Headed by Supt. Geof Markham, Force Training Officer and former F.S.U. commander, it included Ch. Insp. Mike Blackwell, currently in charge of F.S.U., and Insp. Johnny Johnson, tactical Training Inspector at HQ. They were able to quickly make recommendations on training and equipment.

"What pleased me was the speed with which this problem was sorted out once it was brought to the Chief Constable's attention", says Supt. Markham. Coupled with representations from the Police Federation, the recommendation urged the purchase of riot shields and goggles, and reinforced helmets. In due course everyone in the force will be able to receive helmets reinforced by extra struts, with a webbing strap with quick-release catch, on normal issue. And the F.S.U., who can expect as a matter of course to attend all disorder situations in Essex, and some beyond, have been equipped with items of cricket wear known as a "box", which some divisional P.S.U. men have also.

Some shields may be held at each divisional headquarters and others kept at HQ for F.S.U. use. This will ensure their swift deployment should trouble

erupt unexpectedly. But the shields themselves merely present new problems.

Says Ch. Insp. Mike Blackwell, in charge of revised training, "Conventional crowd control training hasn't changed. But how do you embus and de-bus with shields? How do you carry them to the incident? If they come in a separate vehicle how do you hand them out once there?" All these questions have to be answered and the training of the past few weeks has provided the necessary expertise.

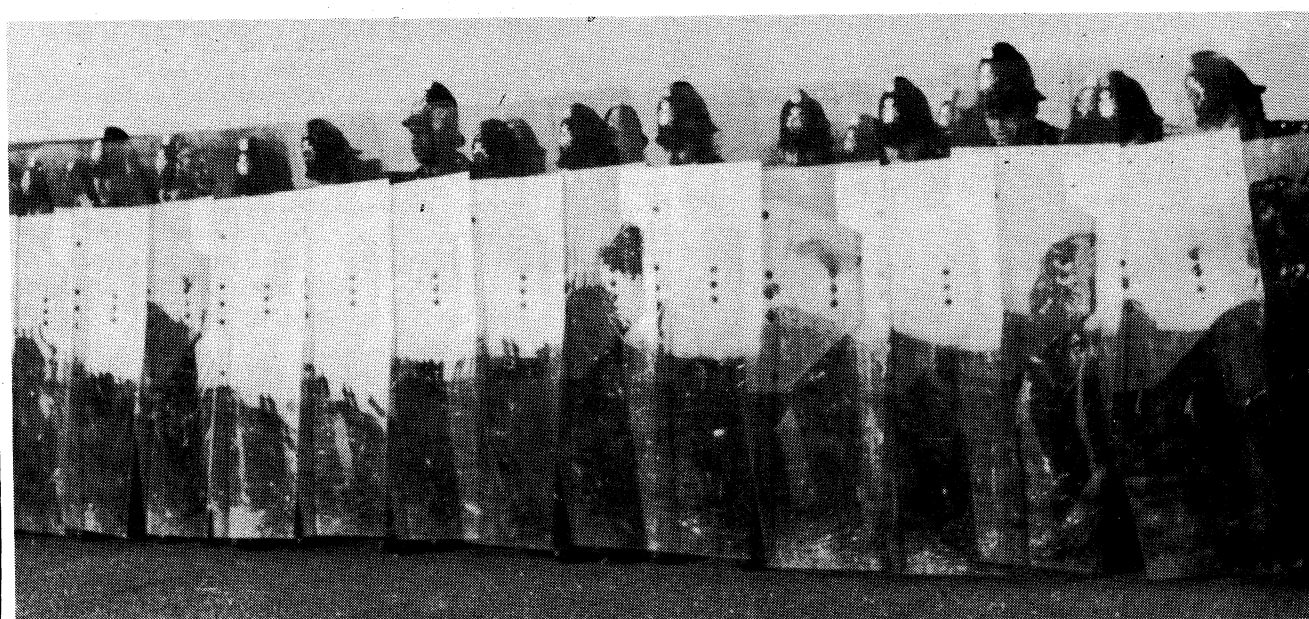
"Conventional" crowd control training had gone on for five years up to 18 months ago when it was decided to discontinue, mainly for financial reasons. But earlier this year Home Office agreed that crowd control should play a limited part in the training of all ranks when they attend HQ for refresher courses. So far this year Ch. Insp. Blackwell has spoken to every course and they have had a double period on crowd control.

Supt. Markham sums it up, "The policy on this subject has to be decided by the Chief Constable. The policy dictates the equipment which in turn dictates tactics. Your tactics dictate training and this dictates operations."

Not offensive

The policy has been to obtain shields but as Ch. Insp. Blackwell says, "These are not offensive weapons but are intended to protect constables." So we still have to train in methods of turning defence into attack while using shields, for example by enabling arrest squads to pass through to arrest ringleaders and so on.

But in all this it must never be forgotten that conventional crowd control



MOBS EYE VIEW of the Essex Police shield wall. These tough transparent shields are capable of

withstanding whole house bricks hurled from a few feet away. This was proved at the recent training course.



THE shield wall from behind. Not an elegant sight but the men are completely protected. The new toughened helmet is also a vast improvement. One was pierced through at the

crown by a brick but was not knocked off and the wearer was uninjured. In the foreground can be seen bricks which had thudded against the shields without harm to the men

technique has not changed. Units still have to train to de-bus smartly and form a cordon. "Nine times out of 10 this is as far as we shall have to go", says Mike Blackwell.

He has made visits to neighbouring forces to see their public order arrangements. "But in the end we have got to make up our own mind on the tactics we are going to use."

Already the F.S.U. has undergone an intensive 4-day session in the new methods. It is now being recommended that every divisional P.S.U. receive similar training.

Provocatively Mike Blackwell is "appalled at the lack of knowledge among inspectors and above of the simple principles of crowd control training and their inability to give a clear sharp order." The F.S.U. commander adds, "If they don't know, what can we expect of the constables?"

Divisional Chief

Superintendents and crowd control officers were invited to the final session of the F.S.U. training course and asked for comment and criticism.

Recently many members of the Force have had a chance to brush up their crowd control at Leigh on October 21, and a reasonably uneventful student march at Colchester on November 2.

After the Leigh operation, which did much both for the morale and image of the Force, the Chief Constable wrote in Orders:

"I would like to record my thanks to all ranks who took part in the operation mounted in Leigh on the evening of Friday, October 21, 1977."

Your bearing, conduct and discipline were in keeping with the high traditions of the Service and was such as to give reassurance to the people of the County."

No-one will be sorry that there was no chance to use the new equipment because crowd control was limited to forming cordons.

But it was brought home to everyone that smart bearing by marching groups can be impressive when local residents actually applauded parties of police moving from reserve to sectors or

back again.

Final piece of advice. If you know you are going to a public disorder incident wear extra clothing, even if it's warm, to protect yourself against the bumps and buffets that these situations inevitably produce. And wear boots against flying bricks and other missiles.



ALTHOUGH they are most unlikely to find themselves in the line on a real incident these Policewomen get the feel of the shields, particularly their weight which would make it difficult for women to carry them for long, whilst on a course at HQ.



CONVENTIONAL crowd control training goes on. Here the Support Unit demonstrate a cordon.

Pensioners' party

COMPLETING his balance sheet for this year's pensioners' garden party, Ch. Insp. Wally Thurgood reports that he is able to carry £309 forward to next year. And as he last year brought forward £327, the party was run this year on the money which was donated by various well-wishers, leaving a useful reserve as a hedge against inflation.

In addition to the cash left over from the 1976 party, the Treasurer received more

than £500 made up of: small donations, £67; Clacton Sports Club, £61; Southend Divisions, £100; Chelmsford Sports Club, £196; Colchester, £34; Grays, £25, and NARPO, £30.

Most of the cash was spent on food, £292 coming under the general heading of catering. Then came hire of tentage, £170, and flowers cost £79.

Soon will begin the process of deciding whether to hold a party next year and what form it should take.

No alternative but to put up contributions

THE COMBINED Welfare Fund Committee, meeting on October 18, decided that from January 1, the monthly contribution would have to rise from 30p to 40p.

This was mainly brought about by rising costs involved in running the Seaside Home at Hove. Eight of the extra 10p will be

contributed towards the Home's running costs. The present subscription of 2p per week was set in 1974 and no-one will be unaware of how costs have risen since

It now costs £60 per week to keep one person at Hove. In 1974 Essex sent 23 officers, cadets and pensioners to the Home.

This dropped to 18 the following year but in 1976 rose to 34. So far this year 39 have attended so clearly the Force is getting value for its contributions.

The individual incurs no cost in going to Hove since his travelling and out of pocket expenses are paid from Welfare Funds.

Welfare Officer, Charlie Howlett hopes that everyone will understand the need for this increase. "It cost £54,270 to run the Convalescent Home in 1974 and the estimate for this year is over £95,000. These figures speak for themselves", he told The Law.

Dogs have their day



THE CHAMP, seven years old, Drummer holding the Kate Cup while handler Alan Gilfillan displays the Murray Shield. Drummer won the Trials at his last attempt — now he will retire from competition.

THERE'S life in the old dog yet. This might have been P.c. Alan Gilfillan's conclusion when he heard that his dog, seven-year-old Drummer had won the Essex Police Dog Trials.

"It was his last chance", Alan told The Law, "because he'll be too old next year. He'll go to the Regional Trials but that will be his lot."

Not only was Drummer the overall champ, winning the Kate Cup, but he also took the Murray Shield for obedience work and shared the Sergeants' Shield for nose work.

In the latter category Drummer tied with Ben, handled by P.c. Rod Barrett of Southend, a

former Force Trials Winner. Barrett and Ben were second overall.

Fellow Southend duo P.c. Len Breewood and Shep placed 3rd and also won the Paddy Shield for criminal work, dropping only 7pts out of a possible 240.

Brett and P.c. Martin Garwood, based at Sandon, placed 4th. The top 4 go on to the Regional Trials.

A feature of the trials was the large number of young dogs — and youngish handlers — on display. "We like to push them into these competitions because it brings them up to scratch once a year," commented Dog Section boss, Ch. Insp. Ian Clarke.



ONE OF two dogs called Shep, this one is handled by P.c. Wally Glen, based at Thorpe. Below, man and dog return from chasing a "criminal," that part of the trials which dogs appear to enjoy most.



BOB FIELDING returns with Boots from chasing a criminal. With him is P.c. Jessup of Kent who acted as judge.



OVER THE TOP goes Kimba on the high wall.



GOOD BOY: Kimba arrives back with a metal object in the retrieval exercise and is about to sit down in front of Keith Simpson.



THE HURDLE has to be cleared without a touch.

**REGIONAL TRIALS
IN ESSEX
SPRING 1978**



FIVE — or should we say 10 — of the contestants pause between events. From the left Messrs. Barrett and Ben, who were placed 2nd; Garwood and Brett, 4th; Goldsmith

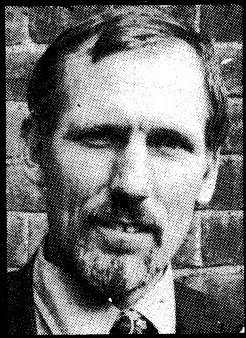


AS THEY return from one chase, Rindt keeps his eyes open for the next, while handler Mick Gurden and



PRINCE looking alert as he awaits the appearance of the "criminal" in the chase and hold section. With handler Ken Boorman of Brentwood and Sgt. Barrett of Kent Dog Section, judge.

Federation Notes



by Jim Rodgers

Police Act 1976

THE Executive Committee saw the Chief Constable in Joint Consultation with regard to the clarification of the question of provision of Copies of Complaints. It was our intention that the officer should be aware of the full content of the complaint, rather than a precis of it. And it was our contention that once this complaint was in hand, a decision could be made as to the likelihood of the officer receiving a copy.

The Chief Constable has agreed to have the following added to the bottom of Form A.181, when it is relevant.

"A copy of the complaint cannot be provided at this stage but there seems no reason at present why it should not be provided when the investigation has been concluded and there are no disciplinary proceedings contemplated. The final decision will be made at that stage."

State Pension Scheme

There is a rumour circulating that commutation of Police pension will be affected by the new scheme. This is nonsense. The confusion is arising — I believe — because some of our members have a differing entitlement with regard to taking a pension at 25 years of service, according to when they joined. Anyone in doubt over entitlement can obtain details either by contacting their local Branch Board Representative or my office.

Rent Allowance

The District Valuer has at last sent through his valuation on the new force selected house, 42 New Park Road, South Benfleet. The valuation will give a force maximum limit rent allowance of £21.79 per week for federated ranks, back dated to the 1st April 1977. At the moment Home Office approval is awaited so that the Police Authority can authorise the payment of the new allowance. This valuation increases the single man's allowance to £10.89 per week, so they all have £4.55 per week in the bank already.

The Housing Committee of the Joint Branch Board, have accepted this valuation and have also applied to the Police Authority for the Metropolitan multiplier system of revaluation to be implemented with effect the date of the review of the maximum limit allowance. Since the delay we have experienced in obtaining the valuation has been caused by outside influences we can see no valid reason why it should not also apply from the 1st April 1977.

It has been suggested that the cost of this retrospective will be in the region of £400,000; and, while we recognise the pain this will cause to the Treasurer, we maintain that if the revaluation had been done quicker, much the same sort of money would by now have been paid out. At least they have had the benefit of holding the money since the 1st April this year; it is the membership of the Force, who have been experiencing their own financial pressures, who now sorely need the benefit of the back payment of the increase. The saga therefore continues, but at least there is some light at the end of the tunnel.

Pay Review 1977

Full details of the agreement which has been reached by the Joint Central Committee and the Home Secretary have been circulated by means of Force Teleprinter. For this facility we must thank Ted Davidson (our very own J.C.C. member) and the goodwill of the Chief Constable.

After the utterances from a certain Member of Parliament and the Chairman of the J.C.C., such a

SUCCESS for Chief Superintendent Peter Nobes, L.B. in his application to become Assistant Chief Constable in the West Yorkshire Metropolitan Police has meant a general shuffle round in Essex, in what might be described as a "B.A. quickstep", there being so many graduates involved.

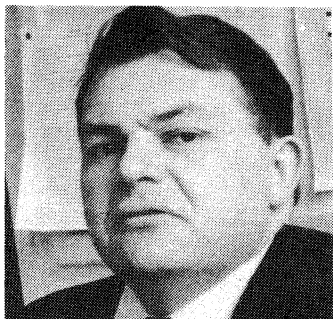
Mr. Nobes' departure from the P and I Dept. at H.Q. means promotion and a move down the corridor from Planning for Supt. Bill Gray, B.A., so P & I lose an L.B. while gaining a B.A.



Mike Humberston, Colchester to HQ.



John Sutton, Grays to HQ.



Peter Nobes, to West Yorks as A.C.C.

Prior to his university course Mr. Gray served at Grays and since graduating he has alternated between Colchester H.Q. and Basildon.

Into the Planning office goes Supt. Mike Humberston from Colchester where he was divisional deputy commander. This is a return trip to H.Q. for Mr. Humberston, who moved to Colchester from there back in 1969 on promotion to Chief Inspector.

Back to operational work from the Force Training School where he moved earlier this year, goes Supt. Geoff Markham B.A., previously in charge of the



Geoff Markham, HQ to Colchester.

Force Support Unit from its inception. Mr. Markham's many interests include the Force cricket team and the Force Band of which he is President.

Chief Insp. John Sutton B.A. is promoted to Supt. Recruiting and Training, a



Bill Gray, Planning to P & I.

department in which he previously served as inspector and chief inspector though more recently he has been in charge of the Corringham Sub-division, and Grays admin.

And on the end of this list of moves comes Insp. Peter Buckles who moves on promotion to Chief Inspector from Corringham to Grays Admin.

Coincidental with the moves brought about by Mr. Nobes' departure are others caused by the retirements of



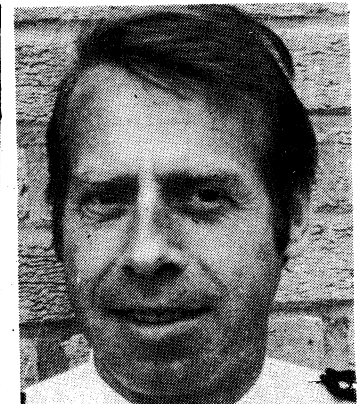
Alan Collins, HQ to Billericay.

Supt. Edgar Horne from Clacton and Ch. Insp. Don Harmer, Chelmsford.



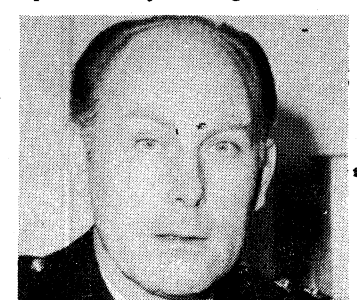
Neil Butcher, CIU to Admin.

Promoted from Billericay to take over as second-in-command at Clacton is Ch. Insp. Les Brewer whose recent past has included Rayleigh sub-Division and Admin. Chief Insp. at Basildon. Another Admin man takes his place at Billericay. Ch. Insp. Alan Collins making his escape from HQ where he has been Staff Officer to the A.C.C. (A).



Peter Buckles, Corringham to Grays Admin.

Don Harmer's retirement meant a "sideways" move for Ch. Insp. Peter Armson from Basildon Admin to the same job at Chelmsford. This in turn brought promotion for Insp. Neil Butcher who moves into Admin from the Community Involvement Unit at Basildon which he has commanded since it was set up several years ago.



Les Brewer, Billericay to Clacton.

Harlow win cricket

Keepers' clean sheet-no byes

THE CRICKET SEASON ended in a flurry of activity in late September, the semi-final and final of the inter divisional competition being played off in the space of three days, thanks to Harlow, who staged both games. In the first the home team disposed of Colchester, first scoring 128 (Croot 25, Miles 20) and then bowling them out for 112 (Latta 41).

After days of rain had made the match doubtful, Harlow and their opponents, Southend, last year's winners, were pleased to find the pitch dry for the final at Epping even if the day was a bit cold.

The weather, however, assisted crowd control and the spectators (Ch. Insp. Newnham and Mr. Taylor, ACC) were persuaded not to keep running on the pitch interrupting play.

BATTING first, Southend started steadily, but with the score at 15, Rod Ellis got an outside edge to Johnny Johnson's away cutter and very sportingly walked although the umpire was unsighted. The score progressed to 30 and Mick Patrick was brought into the attack and gained an immediate success, having Peter Blois caught by Miles.

With Argles and Hudson together Southend looked to be heading for a good score until Johnson forced Argles to offer Dave Murthwaite his second catch behind the wicket, which was gratefully accepted. Harlow grabbed another quick wicket when Peter Moyes was left yards short of the crease after Dave Hudson, who was batting with considerable authority pushed a ball to Tony Ashworth at deep mid wicket and Tony, with only one stump to aim at, threw the wicket down.

Mick Patrick made short work of Clancy and then Dave Hudson's fine innings, a mixture of patience and controlled aggression, came to an end when he skied a short ball from Errol Greene, to the safe hands of Tony Ashworth.

This was quickly followed by a tremendous running catch on the long off boundary by Peter French to dismiss Williams for 21. Harlow now had their tails up and Meggison was run out by a sharp throw by Ashworth and then John Croot showed amazing reflex actions to runout G. Moyes from silly mid on, when the batsman lifted his back foot for a split second. Mick Patrick deservedly claimed the last wicket, clean bowling Thoirs, to end with excellent figures of 4-29.

Johnson had bowled accurately and without too much luck to end with 2-22, but this had proved a fine team effort by Harlow who had fielded enthusiastically and cleanly, to a man, all afternoon. Special mention must be made of Dave Murthwaite who had a really fine

game behind the stumps, and it was due to his acrobatics that no byes were recorded all afternoon.

Southend could not have wished for a better start, for Harlow, requiring 107 runs to win, lost Dave Miles, L.B.W. to Argles first ball of the innings and Errol Greene was the subject of a well planned ploy when he was caught by Blois off Williams to only the eighth ball of the innings.

From a disastrous 1 for 2, John Croot and Dave Murthwaite patiently steadied the innings until Croot was bowled by Argles with the score on 37.

John Johnson, promoted in the order saw quick wickets fall at the other end as Murthwaite (25), Lambourne for a typically steady 11, and Peter French without scoring, trooped back to the pavilion and Harlow were tottering at 67-6. Argles was, at this point in fine form with the ball and had claimed 4-24.

Tony Ashworth then joined Johnson and, after a nervous start, the partnership blossomed to the

point of taking the bowling apart, especially John who drove two tremendous sixes, the second of which left the unfortunate bowler, Argles, gasping as it towered out of the ground.

With victory only three runs away, Ashworth tried to drive Argles once too often and lost his off stump, to give Argles a deserved fifth wicket. Coburn came in and with a drive more attributable to an opener than a number nine, hit a fine boundary to give Harlow the cup. John Johnson, the obvious man of the match, was left 36 not out. Argles was by no means flattered with a final analysis of 5-40 and Rod Ellis, as if to prove he could do anything Dave Murthwaite could do, kept his sheet clean behind the stumps, to end an incredible day without a bye being signalled.

Mr. Taylor then presented the cup to the victorious captain, Peter French, and plaques to both teams. This had been a sporting and well fought match, and worthy of the 1977 final.

HOLIDAY FUND

THE HOLIDAY FUND for 1978 will commence on January 15. Application forms will shortly be forwarded to every Divisional Headquarters, and these should be completed and returned to Mrs. P. Burrows at Rayleigh Police Station, by not later than Saturday, December 10, 1977. All existing participants must complete a new application form for 1978.

Subscriptions are deducted from salaries at source. The amount of the subscription cannot be altered during the year.

Three-quarters of a member's yearly entitlement may be drawn out, on application, between April 1 and September 30. The remaining quarter will be paid in December, without application. Withdrawal cheques may be cashed at any branch of the Trustee Savings Bank in the Essex County, or paid into an officer's own bank account.

FORCE LOTTERY

RESULT of the Force Lottery Draw held at Maldon on 28.10.77.

1st, D.C. Benton, Maldon	£596.20
2nd, Wpc Smith, Chelmsford	£298.10
3rd, Wpc Matthews, Rayleigh	£149.05
4th, P.C. Atherton, Witham	£74.52

Consolation prizes of £14.90, to Wdc Hyem, Southend; D.C. Payne, Colchester; P.S. Morgan, Clacton; P.C. Bird, Colchester; P.C. Coleman, Colchester Traffic.

short time before the settlement, the agreement itself was an anti-climax to say the least. Many — and I include myself in this category — had come to the conclusion that it was 'put up, or shut up' time. My first impressions on receiving the news that a tentative agreement had been reached on 10 per cent immediate increase and a promise to the future, were 'here we go again, promises, promises.' However, having studied the full text at some length, I believe the J.C.C. were right to have accepted the whole package.

The Government have committed themselves to implement the findings of the independent inquiry. Lord Edmund Davies — who heads the inquiry, was selected by the Police Federation, as was one other member of the tribunal. The J.C.C. have already laid before this tribunal, their pay claim which was prepared by a professor Ted Nevins. They have faith that their claim on our behalf will stand the test of the independent inquiry, so far as it relates to restoration of the Willink Standards, i.e. somewhere between 35 and 55 per cent extra. They also have faith in their arguments concerning the danger element, the productivity increase and feel the inquiry will come to much the same conclusions. With the J.C.C. and Government committed to accept the results of the inquiry, I believe we can look forward to a substantial increase in Police Pay, phased over the next year or so.

If the worst comes to the worst and the inquiry comes to the same conclusions as the Official Side of the Police Council, then increases of between 28 and 55 per cent have already been suggested from this source.

The immediate problem to be sorted out is how to spread the 10 per cent, and I believe this should be across the board, allowing the Inquiry findings to make adjustment to differentials and incremental scales.

An interim report has been suggested dealing with pay, and it is hoped that this will be prepared as soon as possible. It is very necessary that an early report is made to ensure we do not lose more men. The size of the recommended increases may be sufficient to entice back into the Service those who have recently left to obtain more money elsewhere. A promise of maintaining our position in the national scale of pay could also persuade others to come in and make a career of the Police Service.

The Law Shop

FOR SALE Silver cross hard body pram — Navy blue with Rolls Royce Silver/Grey stripe — with accessories £45. Telephone Tilbury 70379.

FOR SALE: Detached house, Danbury, 3 bedrooms all fitted wardrobes, etc., lounge 18ft. x 12ft., kitchen-diner, oil fired central heating, bathroom, cloakroom, single garage and parking space, good position, fields to rear, ratable value £310; £20,750. Supt. G. Harris, H.Q. or Danbury 5234.



Essex win Police pistol team championship

First round netball victory

DESPITE being without a recognised shooter, Essex policewomen won their first round PAA match against Norfolk at Chelmsford on October 12.

Susan Youngs moved in as shooter and newcomer to the team, Julie Benjamin, normally a defender, played goal attack.

Though this caused some tangles up front, the team — six former cadets — started with their customary rush and were 5-0 ahead before the opposition settled. Thereafter it was even and without the early lead Essex would have been pressed.

The final score was 17-11, though missed shots might have doubled the Essex score.



NOT LOOKING especially cheerful but they cheered up after winning. From left, Siobhan McAuley, Julie Benjamin, Tracey Haymes, Gillian Skilleter, Alison Marshall, Susan Youngs and Barbara Ruby.

Rugby team home at last



AN HISTORIC moment as the Force rugby team take to the field in their first-ever truly home match. This year the HQ sports field has been marked out for rugby at the expense of one of the football pitches. Alas, their match against Basildon Teachers did not end in a result to match the occasion and Police went down 26-0.

BOOK THIS DATE NOW

Next Force Swimming Event

Annual Gala

CHELMSFORD POOL ON 21 JAN 1978

Walking

CONTESTING races in U.K., Holland, Austria, and Germany at distances ranging from 2 miles up to 100, the walking section may be said to have kept busy in the period under review.

In the only team contest undertaken, the first race of the Essex Walking league season at Woodford, the squad packed in well to take 2nd place. While no startling times were recorded this performance gives a chance of winning the league for the first time

as well supported as was this one. The race was notable for the inclusion of Miss McAuley in the team. She was the only girl in the race and although eventually only one man finished behind her, she showed enough speed over the first half to have several scratching about to keep ahead.

She has had a good spell, setting records at 3000 and 5000 mts. At Highgate she was 4th in a race in which a womens world record was set and at Milton Keynes raced against Swedish and British world record holders.

Peter Ryan was unlucky in Austria not to reach his target for

50kms distance. The course was suitable and the opposition such as to push him on but the weather was rather hot, even in October, the race being walked in a narrow valley in high temperatures.

Denis Sheppard has raced in Holland and Germany as well as U.K. but has not hit peak form. Never mind, a winter's work now begins in time for the important races in the spring. Finally on a disappointing note, John Hedgethorpe failed in his attempt to get back into 100 miling form. It is now several years since he completed a long race in U.K. and he had hoped to put this right

It was not to be as a foot injury which has been troublesome for some months stopped him at 52 miles. But this has now been put right, John hopes, as he too starts the winter work period with his eyes on next year's long ones.

RESULTS

Highgate Hs-hour races: 17.9.77
J. Hedgethorpe 11440mts. Women's 3000mts 4th S. McAuley 15.41 (Rec)
Milton Keynes open races: 26.9.77
10,000mts 29th D. Sheppard 49.29
Women's 5,000mts 12th S. McAuley 27.39 (Rec)
Drachten, Holland, 20kms: 1.10.77
6th P. Ryan, 99:26.8; 9th D. Sheppard 103:8.6

56.17; 20th J. Hedgethorpe 58.41; 28th B. Daymond 63.18; 34th L. Berry 67.57; 39th S. McAuley 68.37. Team placed 2nd
Crystal Palace 5,000mts: 12.10.77
6th D. Sheppard 24.10; S. Wilmott 29.57
Hamburg 20kms: 15.10.77
2nd D. Sheppard 102.02
Blackheath 9kms: 19.10.77
4th J. Hedgethorpe 46.28; 31st S. Wilmott 57.47
Brighton 10,000mts: 22.10.77
D. Sheppard 50.16; J. Hedgethorpe 52.10. Women's 3,000mts: 4th S. McAuley 15.30 (Force rec)
Austrian 50kms: 22.10.77
5th P. Ryan 4hrs 41m
Vauxhall (Luton) 7 miles: 29.10.77
28th J. Hedgethorpe 58.28. Women's

"OUR best ever," was how Pistol Secretary Phil Webb described the Essex team performance at the Mecca of British shooting, Bisley, in September.

Then, in the combat event the Essex team were not content with just beating the other 34 forces. They set an all time record score of 2,228 to really rub in their superiority.

And individual second place fell to Graham Harvey, a fine result with 206 officers taking part. Better still, as Phil Webb captured 3rd place in the police pistol centrefire event.

Commented Training Superintendent J. Sutton, also in the team, "These results clearly show that we have one of the best police pistol teams in the country. We not only fire in combat events but in Olympic UIT as well."

It was in the rapid fire competition under this classification that Colchester's Phil Webb became the first Essex man to win. John Sutton, 4th, Dave Brooks, 10th, and Gerry French, 13th, were also well placed.

On a sadder note, Phil Webb failed in his attempt to shoot his way into British national training squad, again at Bisley, in late



The Essex Team, from left: J. Sutton, G. Harvey, P. Webb and D. Brooks.

September when his scores were just short of the required standard.

"I have worked hard this year and have been rewarded with the National Championship in March, and the Rapid Fire Championship at Bisley, both P.A.A. events. I shall work even harder now, so here's hoping for next year," Phil told The Law.

But back to John Sutton for the last word, "You can

tell Phil he'll have to fight hard next year to beat his team mates, never mind the rest," he said.

Rest of the Bisley results: Free pistol: 5th P. Webb, 8th J. Sutton, 14th G. Harvey, 24 fired.

Standard pistol: 4th G. Harvey, 10th equal J. Sutton and P. Webb, 16th D. Brooks, 54 fired.

Centrefire pistol: 9th J. Sutton, 10th G. Harvey, 25th P. Webb, 112 fired.

Essex struggle at Maidstone

THE CROSS COUNTRY squad began their winter season at Maidstone on October 5, with one or two notable absentees and the race results were predictably effected.

Despite an easy win for Siobhan McAuley in the women's race the team were beaten by good packing by Kent runners who put 5 in the first 10 home. Alison

Marshall, making a welcome return to the team, finished 8th, and though Linda Brewster and Carol Whatley arrived soon after in 11th and 12th places, they were just too far back for a team win, Kent getting home by 219 to 212.

The same was true of the men's race. Andy Down, who reappeared on the cross country scene at the tail end

of last winter, by coincidence on the Maidstone course, was looking much sharper than then and led the team home occupying 94th position.

Sadly one might have hoped that Graham Butler would have been further up than this but the team has suffered "wastage" like other departments and Graham has returned to civilian running.

Andy Hayman came home next in 14th position and he was followed by Alex Vowles, 20th. Essex scoring picked up a bit here thanks to Eynsham-exiled Barry Daymond, 25th, and Gary Barrett, 27th.

But as in other seasons Essex have a bit of a gap in this part of the field and now had to wait until 50th place for Ian Poynter to arrive, closely followed by Mervyn Fairweather. But still these scores were enough to secure 4th place with a points total which was only 19 points adrift of 2nd placing Surrey.

And as one race can be discarded in calculating the seasons result there are hopes that, with some of the Essex absentees back in the field, the result could still be wide open.

PAA Judo champ



W.P.C. Pat Foster, stationed at Rayleigh, won a gold medal for Essex when she competed in the P.A.A. Openweight Judo Championships held at Hendon on Saturday, October 29, 1977. Pat, who is a Judo Black Belt 2nd Dan, and has represented Great Britain, fought against women police officers from Scotland, Wales, Ireland and England to win the medal.

ESSEX POLICE AMATEUR BOXING CLUB

THE club has had its first invitations to box at gym shows in Essex. They recently attended the Chelmsford Amateur Boxing Club gymnasium for a training session and they have been invited to box at the Blue House ABC at Pitsea later on this month or next at Colchester ABC premises.

The Metropolitan Police have invited boxers and their trainers to a training weekend being held in January 1978 at their Lippitts Epping HQ.

Force members and their trainers are reminded that training sessions now take place on Wednesday evenings at the Force Training School gym and also on Saturday mornings at the same venue. Enquiries should either be sent to the Hon. Sec. Det. Sgt. R. Mills, RCS Brentwood, or the Club trainers P.C.'s Dave Lowe and Ritch Batkin, both of whom

New Essex course puts accent on command

AN ENTIRELY new style of course for Inspectors was launched at HQ last month following the deliberations of a working party. Entitled the Essex Police Command Course, the programme places the emphasis firmly on command and responsibility.

Course Director was Supt. M. Humberston, who told The Law, "Inspectors have missed out on command training in the past, yet they are the very people who find themselves initially in command when something breaks."

This view was backed up by two pieces of film shown to the course. One, shot in Essex, showed an Inspector in command in a public order situation. The other,

from Norwich during football disorder, showed an Inspector talking to TV while periodically ducking missiles.

TV techniques with filmed interviews were included on the course together with command aspects of crowd control training and tactical use of firearms.

The course is intended for Inspectors and Chief Inspectors but the first courses will include Inspectors who have not recently attended a course. None of the first group had been on a course for the past three years.

Says Mr. M. Comrie ACC(P), whose responsibilities include training, "Constables get a refresher course every few

years and it is incumbent on us to give Inspectors the same opportunity."

There was lively discussion at the end of the course on various aspects of the programme, particularly on the 10-minute lecturettes on recent legislation, each member of the course having been required to deliver one.

Course members were not all convinced of the value of this ritual, but it is apparently a mental exercise and as such indispensable.

"Did you need this course?" Guinea pigs on the first course faced this abrupt question on the last day. With 10 Inspectors present there were inevitably 10 different answers, but on balance they were satisfied that it had been valuable.



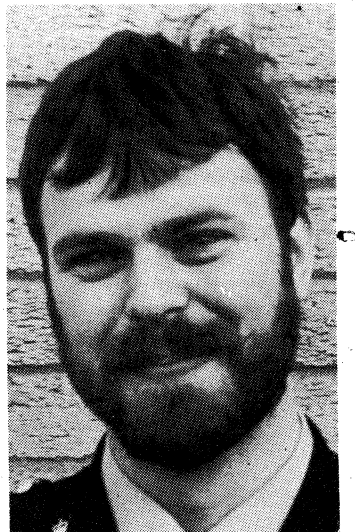
MEMBERS of the initial Essex Police Command Course manage to keep cheerful between sessions.

Recruits go to every corner of the County

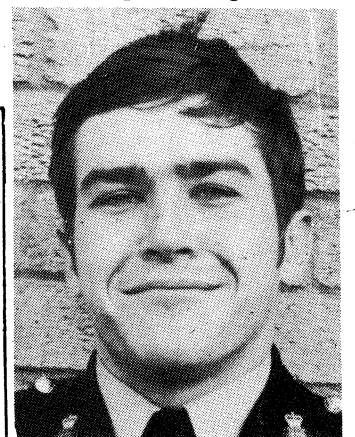
THIS MONTH'S intake has been scattered to the far corners of the county by the postings clerk, or whoever it is who keeps the map and pin nowadays. They include a top student and a couple of ex-cadets. Front row, from left, I. Stevenson posted to Braintree; G. Smith, Colchester; A. Moss, Chelmsford; L. Pickering, Colchester; P. George, Chelmsford; M. Grindall, Westcliff; W. Oxlade, Halstead.

Centre: K. Skingley, Southend; S. Halford, Chelmsford; D. Tremain, Billericay; B. Blackman, Harwich; R. Esgrave, Tilbury; C. Roberston, Basildon.

Rear: T. Geraghty, Southend; D. King, Basildon; D. Rout, Chelmsford; M. Bennett, Walden; M. Fester, Epping.



P.c. C. A. Robertson, top student at Eynsham has been posted to his home area, Basildon. He was formerly a development engineer.



P.c. K. Skingley was runner-up in the Eynsham stamina run. He returns to reinforce the force cross-country team, of which he was a scoring member last year.

End of 27 years in Maldon Sub



ON 16th September a farewell 'do' was held at Maldon Police Station when P.c. Tony Suttling retired after 27 years in the force.

Throughout his service P.c. Suttling was stationed in the Maldon Sub-Division. He was the detached beat officer at Tillingham for seventeen years.

He will continue to live in Maldon and will be employed as a 'private eye'.

Pictured is Chief Inspector Eady, of Maldon, presenting Tony Suttling with an engraved tankard and pen on behalf of his colleagues at Maldon. Mrs. Suttling was presented with a bouquet.

National Association of Retired Police Officers by Bert Brinkley

Chelmsford Social

Seventy-six members and their wives attended the annual lunch on September 17 and enjoyed an excellent meal provided by the canteen manageress, Mrs. Hehn,

and her staff, and we are indebted to them for the hard work put in which was very much appreciated by all concerned. Our guests were Mr. H. A. Taylor (ACC) and Mrs. Taylor, P.s. Jim Rodgers (Federation) and Mrs. Rodgers, and P.c. Charlie Howlett (Welfare) and Mrs. Howlett. The social concluded with a photograph which turned out very successfully. I had hoped to see more members from the Chelmsford locality but no doubt there were very good reasons. It was good to see Bob Palmer from Lowestoft and also Roy and Mrs. Bloodworth, who had made the journey from Saltash in Cornwall.

P.P.H.A. Lottery

The Branch has been lucky in recent draws. The wife of a member received a "near miss" prize of £10 and a member scooped the big prize of £100 on October 9 — no, it was not me — although I do share the first half of his surname. He wishes to retain his anonymity. The Branch disposed of 110 cards in the new lottery, which commenced on October 16 and

runs through to February 1978. Let's hope that even more will be lucky in this next draw.

Conference Motions

Although the result of the Conference will appear in our next Bulletin — I hope — it may be a good thing to publish a few of the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



A group of Chelmsford Branch members who attended the Annual Social and Dinner on Saturday 17 September. An excellent lunch was provided in the Staff Canteen by the Manageress — Mrs. Hehn and her very capable band of helpers. 76 members and wives sat down to lunch and our guests were H. A. Taylor (ACC) and Mrs. Taylor, Sergeant Jim Rodgers (Police Federation) and Mrs. Rodgers and P.c. Charlie

Howlett F.W.O. and Mrs. Howlett. The oldest member (and here I stand corrected) was Charles Havers, 87 years young, closely followed by Bill Pink, a mere 84 years. Charles Havers was awarded a Certificate of Honorary Life Membership of the Association at the Annual Conference on 2 September at Blackpool. 'Charles' has served on our committee for a number of years

Investiture was a family occasion



THE Bright family: Mrs. Rita Bright who first heard of the incident when she read it in the morning paper next day, and three sons Lee aged 9, Gary 8, and Daren 12 years.



WITH Det. Ch. Insp. Peter Croxford were his son, Ian, and daughter-in-law, Sandra.

FAMILIES of Detectives who received the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct were at HQ to see them receive their "Oakleaves" on October 20. Also present were fellow CID officers, members of the Rayleigh Division and probationary officers from HQ.

Reading the citation the Chief Constable told the assembly that on July 26 last year the police were informed that a shooting incident had occurred at Leigh-on-Sea. Sergeant Donovan and Sergeant (then Constable) Bright went to the scene along with a number of other officers and discovered a man with a double-barrelled shotgun in the street. The man approached Constable Rod Daniels, who had arrived in a police car, pointing the shotgun at the officer's head, got into the back of the vehicle and ordered him to drive off. The officer drove slowly away followed at a distance by another police car containing Donovan and Bright.

After about 10 minutes the officer persuaded the man to let him stop the car and both men got out of the vehicle.

Roy Donovan and Dave Bright stopped their vehicle a short distance away and got out. An elderly man walking along the road, unaware of what was happening, distracted the gunman and enabled Constable Bright and Sergeant Donovan to run to the first police car and take cover behind it while the officer being held at gun point got away.

Bright and Donovan then faced the man, who seemed to be emotionally upset, and talked to him for some time occasionally giving him cigarettes. During the conversation the two hammers of the shotgun were cocked and the man frequently threatened the officers with the weapon.

Chief Inspector Peter Croxford arrived shortly after Sgts. Donovan and Bright had engaged the man in conversation and with the other officers he took up a position about 20 yards from the gunman.

After some time he was able to get closer by carrying three mugs of tea on a tray to the man and the two officers and all three officers tried to persuade the man to give them the shotgun and give himself up. The man continued to

threaten the officers with the shotgun and on several occasions he turned it on himself and threatened to commit suicide. But eventually he broke open the gun and ejected the two cartridges from the barrels.

The officers ran forward, seized the weapon and arrested the man who offered no resistance.

Constable Daniels was later commended by the Chief Constable for his actions in this incident. Even before Ron Daniels was threatened Constable Brian Wallace had had a narrow escape when the man carrying the shotgun leapt on the back of his motorcycle and demanded to be driven away. Then he got off again.

In his speech Sir John Ruggles-Brise praised the three Detectives and all members of the Force for their devotion to duty. But he was concerned at talk of a police strike he said, "We members of the public are a selfish lot and would object to being left unprotected."

He was convinced the police were a special case and would get proper treatment in the end.



DET. SGT. Donovan's parents attended the investiture and also his son David, aged 9, and wife Jean.



TWO uniformed officers who were also involved in the incident, P.c. Brian Waller, left and P.c. Rod Daniels.

N.A.R.P.O.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

motions in this column so that readers can see how Conference instructed the N.E.C. to take strong action on the matters discussed. Time and space prevent a verbatim report, but it is considered worthy of note if the following motions were publicised:

1. To remove the age limit **completely** for increases in pension.

2. Conference called for a **six-monthly** review of public service pensions.

3. N.E.C. would take effective action in the event of any proposals for modifying index linking of public service pensions when the review of arrangements are transferred from the P.P. Act, 1971, to the Social Security Act, 1975, and would press for the clarification of review arrangements after 1977.

4. N.E.C. directed to press for the widows of Police pensioners who married **after** retirement to be

classified as, and receive Police Widows pensions.

5. Motions submitted are to be carefully checked and if found already to be Association stated policy, to be refused and the Branch informed accordingly.

6. N.E.C. to press the Government for State benefits to be payable at the age of 60 years for **both** men and women.

7. Conference directs N.E.C. to pursue the seeking of approval of the usage of married accommodation at the Convalescent Home at Hove, after applications from the Regular Police have been fully met and there still remains married accommodation.

Among the 28 members recommended for Honorary Life Membership of the Association was one from the Chelmsford Branch, Charles Stanley Havers, who has served on the Committee for a number of years. We offer him our congratulations and hope to have the Certificate presented to him by Mr. H. A. Taylor, ACC., at

a Committee meeting on October 22.

Convalescent Home

A circular from the General Secretary, N.E.C., has been sent to all Branches urging them to take the matter up with the local J.B.B. Police Federation. The question was brought up at the Annual Conference when it was reported that married accommodation at the Home had been denied pensioners after all applications from the Regular Police had been fully met and vacant accommodation was still available. Conference was indignant at hearing this and urged the N.E.C. to press for much better treatment for pensioners. Our local Secretary has been handed a copy of the circular and asked if he will arrange for the matter to be discussed and a motion submitted to the Home for their A.G.M. in May 1978. It was felt that it was incumbent upon the J.B.B. to support this motion as it is not

generally realised that a great number of pensioners supported an appeal in the early thirties for financial assistance which was readily forthcoming, that fact should not be overlooked.

Membership

Intending new members are asked to include their subscriptions (£1.44 male, widows 24p) when submitting enrolment forms. It would save unnecessary postage if the forms could be sent to the Secretary of the Branch which they wish to join — Chelmsford, Colchester or Southend.

Unemployment Benefit

One of our members resigned from the Force in June, 1977 (not on age limit) after completing 30 years approved service. His subsequent claim for unemployment benefit was refused on the grounds that "he left the Force without good cause," this is the usual excuse put forward. He

gave instances where he had sought employment without result.

He was advised to appeal against this decision and the appeal was heard at Cambridge in September. He was awarded **three weeks' benefit instead of the six** he had hoped for. Unfortunately, this is final. There are cases on record which have appeared in our Bulletins where the full six weeks' benefit have been paid, also some where only three weeks have been paid. The moral of this story is appeal where future claims to benefit have been disallowed for the reasons outlined above.

Comrades Luncheon

About 90 members attended the luncheon on October 7 (fewer than last year) at the County Hotel, Chelmsford. An excellent meal was provided which was enjoyed very much by those attending. I have only one comment to make and that is the scarcity of pensioners attending. There are many reasons, of course, but with the record number of members one was led to

expect more. A number of serving Officers were present, but here again, it was felt that more could have made this "once a year" function. It was suggested that the luncheon followed too closely upon the garden party in June/July and the efforts of the two organisations should be merged.

I, personally, cannot go along with this idea. It must be remembered that the two organisations are separate bodies in that the garden party is free invitation to **all pensioners**, whereas the luncheon is restricted to **members only**, who share the cost of the meal. Also, the same can be said of the individual Branches who hold their own functions restricted to **members only**. If these functions are to continue they must be fully supported by all concerned who are also prepared to give some assistance when called upon.

A great deal of hard work goes into the making of a successful function but the organisers would be encouraged if more support was forthcoming.

THE LAW

H.Q. telephone extensions 216 or 236

Published by Essex Police, H.Q., Chelmsford. Tel. 67267. Printed by the Essex Chronicle Series Ltd., Westway, Chelmsford, CM1 3BE.

NEXT ISSUE

12th DEC. '77