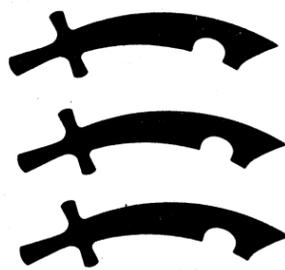




# THE LAW

April, 1978 No. 104



*The Newspaper of the Essex Police*

## Deputy chosen as next Chief

THE NEXT Chief Constable of Essex who will take over from Sir John Nightingale on 1st July will be the present Deputy Chief Constable, Mr. Robert Bunyard.

For Mr. Bunyard, success on the interview, at County Hall on 29th March, meant a rapid jump forward. Only last Autumn he was Assistant Chief Constable in Leicestershire and began duty in Essex just before Christmas on completion of a 12 month course at the Royal College of Defence Studies in London.

Before serving in Leicestershire, Mr. Bunyard was a member of the Metropolitan Police which he joined in 1952. His appointment still awaits confirmation by Home Office.

Mr. Bunyard told the local press after his appointment that his first priority would be to boost manpower. At present Essex Police are over 100 short of an out-of-date establishment.

"To a large extent the solution lies out of our hands," he added in an oblique reference to the pay inquiry, "Only by improving pay and conditions will we be able to attract more people into the Force."



## FORCE TROPHIES AWARDED



PICTURED at the Essex Joint Branch Board open meeting on March 20, is the Chief Constable with Lady Patricia in the background. Full report of the meeting is on Page 5.



BALLOON dog and Millard Trophy: Sgt. Harbour.

FORCE Trophies were presented at HQ on April 5th, by Brigadier T. Collins, Chairman of the Police Committee.

After receiving his award for the best efforts in the field of police public relations, magicact man Sgt Nigel Harbour made up a balloon dog which was presented in return for the Millard Trophy.

### Helped Police

Traffic Warden Michael Terry of Clacton, pictured with his wife after the presentation, received the Betts Trophy for arresting a youth in possession of a stolen vehicle.

Bravery award the Wilson Trophy went to Constable Tony Collinson and Sgt. Bob Williamson of the Brentwood Dog Section, who arrested three armed men who were later sentenced for robbery, pictured with Brig. T. Collins.



"GIVE US A KISS" says Windsor to handler Bryan Marks of Ashford, Kent, after they had won the Regional Trials last month. Full report on centre pages.



TRAFFIC Warden and Mrs. Terry from Clacton



BRIGADIER Collins with P.c. Collinson, left, and Sgt. Williamson.

## Ediview

## How to save face

BEING currently in the course of negotiations of a sort to improve policemen's financial condition, the Service will not have been particularly impressed with last week's budget. The news that £5 million is to be allocated for the employment of 1,300 additional civilians and 700 more cadets is welcome in that this will help both recruiting and release policemen to do police work.

Whether the Essex Police Authority will be able to take advantage of the extra cash for cadets is another matter. Having axed the cadet training scheme last year — and one will agree that this was the fault of central government, not the police authority — they then went out of their way to justify their action by discrediting cadet training generally, assisted by a report which alleged that former cadets' wastage was no better than other recruits' and that their general performance once in the force was, if anything, rather worse than direct entrants'. The statistics which supported these conclusions were rather doubtful, but the trouble with decisions made this way is that they are always hard to reverse in such a way as not to lose face — the politician's nightmare.

## Was it hot air?

WHAT HAS HAPPENED to all the militancy being displayed in police circles last year? Are the Federation just sitting quietly waiting to see what they are going

to be given just like every other year, except that this time they are waiting on the Inquiry instead of the Home Secretary? Impartial observers might be forgiven for thinking that all the talk of striking and such was just hot air.

Policemen are, after all, about as badly off now as when the last pay rise was imposed, allowing for inflation, and yet things have gone very quiet. One can only hope we get something added on for good behaviour.

## Nothing to choose

ODD how the political view of freedom, mostly claptrap anyway, is selective. Two proposals to extend the power of the State and presumably add to the burdens of the Police came up recently.

One was the suggestion that everyone might have to carry an identity card, and the other was that shopkeepers who sell things by the yard instead of the metre might be sent to prison.

The first was scorned as very wicked and turned down flat because it came up in connection with race relations, the second was only stopped when it was found that civil servants did not understand their own laws which did not, in fact, allow for shopkeepers to be jailed, only fined!

While viewpoints will vary on which of these examples is the more monstrous invasion of the liberties of Englishmen, this column can find no difference at all. If it is to be illegal to drink a yard of ale one might as well carry an identity card because 1984 will have arrived early.

## Cheap-skate image

THIS column is not entirely reassured by defensive noises made in face of revelations last month that Essex spends less on its police arrangements than any other county and is, indeed, 16% behind the average expenditure in this field.

One side of the defence is good budgeting. To be sure budgeting has taken place but at what point does it cease to be good and begin to be miserly? Since wage rates are the same all over the country and form the major part of the county's outgoings on Police, Essex expenditure must be pared to the bone on everything else.

The other side of the defence is that the force establishment is low compared with other areas and Essex has only 1.7 policemen per 1000 people compared with 2.1 elsewhere. Thus the wages bill is reduced. This prompts one to wonder, not how the Essex establishment fell, but how others rose. Why has Essex had excessive recruiting problems which other forces presumably have not? Could it be that the expenditure on recruiting is too low both in cash and other resources?

Even the introduction to the Chief Constable's annual report carries the warning, "There is no scope for any further reduction in expenditure. If efficiency is to be maintained an increase is necessary." Yet we still hear other senior officers talking in terms of sums of money "saved", presumably by not fully spending even those sums which have been passed for the police budget.

All this puts the Force in line for a pinch-penny image outside and lowered morale inside. Because one man's £5 saved is another man's backside pinched by a cracked toilet seat.

## Southend 'Boro' men retire



TWO well-known characters disappear from the force and Southend scene as Sgt. Basil Uren, left, and P.c. Terry Ford take their pension. At a combined retirement party at the end of March, Chief Supt. G. Dolby made presentations.

Basil Uren has been well known among bowlers of the force and will now take up the job of security

consultant.

Terry Ford, too, has indulged in various sports, including throwing the hammer, and has been known to indulge in a magic act, though the only thing to disappear this year has been Terry — and he will be going to Essex University to study biology. Pic. by Roy S. Smith.

# National Association of Retired Police Officers

by Bert Brinkley

## Annual Bowls

This fixture is on Thursday, June 22, 1978. Those wishing to play should contact Mr. W. Hindley, 64, Oliver Road, Shenfield, Brentwood. Tel: Brentwood 94 214614.

## Open Meeting

The two delegates from Chelmsford branch attended this open meeting and were well received. The meeting was well represented and useful information was obtained.

Mr. Tom Doody, NEC from Manchester had some very caustic remarks to make upon the attitude of the Police Federation in response to a circular from the NEC asking all J. B. Boards to submit and support a motion to the A.G.M. of the Police Convalescent Home, Hove in May this year on the question of married accommodation being made available to pensioners after the requirements of the regular police had been met. Our local J.B.B. merely endorsed the ruling of the J.C.C. which was in accordance with Deed of Trust, but further

representation will be made by the N.E.C.

Attempts have been made to improve the preserved rate widows' pension but discussions so far have failed and as the Police Federation has withdrawn from the Police Council the Association had to do battle alone. Consultations have also been sought with the Association of Chief Police Officers, two meetings were arranged for 1977 but these did not take place. The last meeting was in November, 1976.

The general secretary (Philip J. Smith) spoke at length on the pensions regulations coming into force in April 1978 and November, 1979, these were set out in detail in our last bulletin. Sufficient to say that we shall receive the pension increase on December 1, 1978, as heretofore, but for 1979 the increase will come within the Social Security Pensions Act, 1975, but the date for the increased retirement pensions has not yet been determined and the date of the increase in public service pensions cannot therefore be decided. Retirement pensions are paid weekly and public service pensions are paid monthly, one can see the anomalies that arise and discussions have and are taking place to get them resolved. One fact did emerge — the age limit for increases in pension will still be retained at 55 years.

## P.P.H.A. Lottery

Response to the Lottery has been very encouraging, the fund stands at £25,000 and it is estimated an annual income of £5,000. Things are moving in the right direction and the possibility is there for positive action to be taken before long to further the Scheme.

## Police Insignia

A letter has been received from Insp. S. D. Farley (Metro) 72 Rydal Drive, Bexleyheath, Kent, PA7

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

# 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.



have thoroughly enjoyed various reminiscences associated with his ex-colleagues and the Tilbury area.

Nevertheless, one wonders if he fully realises the infinite pleasure he gives to other folk in his reminiscing?

Everyone, a fact upon which I am prepared to argue upon, has a certain amount of 'egoism' in his make-up, therefore a considerable

amount of this 'infinite pleasure' arises from the fact, that on reading these letters it is immediately brought to mind, irrespective of you now being considered an 'elderly citizen,' that you are not just a nonentity in that limbo of a long forgotten past. "Sailor Jack" indeed, as Ralph refers to me (Dec. 1977 issue), it is a very long time since anyone referred to me as that.

One of course wishes that I could have a memory, or should I say 'memories' comparable to Ralph Jones.

My memories, mostly pleasant, but unfortunately interspersed with a certain amount of sadness, occasioned by the non-return of colleagues from World War 2 are really of a nature in which I am bound to express, of both the quality and helpfulness of those

police officers in the Essex County Constabulary with whom I was proudly privileged to serve.

Residing so far away, I was, until recent years unaware of the fact and functions of N.A.R.P.O. Therefore may I take this opportunity of praising their efforts on behalf of all police pensioners, admirably advertised in 'The Law,' and point out that membership, sentimentally perhaps, helps to provide a warm contact with ex-colleagues and helps to avoid becoming that 'nonentity.'

Yours faithfully,  
JACK FLORY,  
(Ex. P.C. 405),

5 Garnett Street,  
East Oakleigh,  
Melbourne,  
Victoria 3166,  
Australia. March 21, 1978.

## Reminiscences

Dear Sir,  
Ralph Jones in his letters to you over the past few months, must

## Affluent Effluence

Sir,

Peace be within thy marble halls. In the interests of historical accuracy, a word in the editorial earhole about E.P.M. It was conceived and run by a handful of eccentrics who should have known better. The timing was unfortunate. For one thing, the service was already in decline. For another, standards were changing fast. Elvis, the Beatles and other international figures were all set to inaugurate the age of the job. Despite that the announcement came over loud and clear, the committee were too busy to notice. This, and today's effluent society have destroyed bigger things than

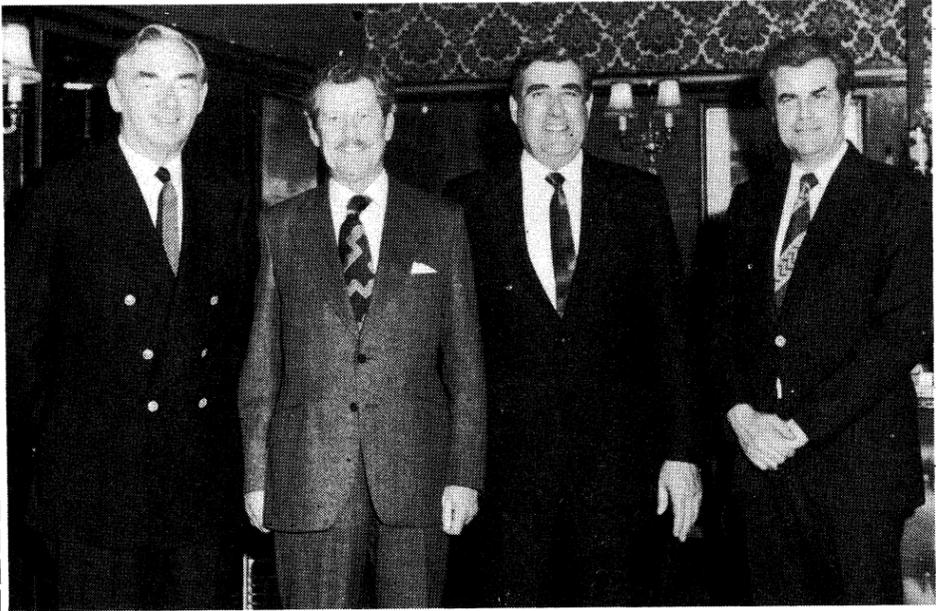
house journals. E.P.M. died because nobody cared, sic transit.

Sentimental and prosaic? Touche! But tell your younger readers that E.P.M. was a pocket-sized production in full colour. It not only yielded a modest profit but won the accolade of top police house magazine at a time when the U.K. boasted hundreds of forces. When I last looked there were 50.

Charles Dyer was the brains at the nerve-centre. George Hodges was the "Mr. Fix-it" whose high-ranking muscle kept the frail barque afloat amid a sea of troubles. Police duty was not conspicuously gentle (fade in gipsy

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

# Chief Instructors' reunion



THIS distinguished line-up assembled at a recent driving school function to celebrate a change at the wheel, as it were. From the left, Ron Priestley, Harry Smith, Dennis Johnson, and Terry Roberts all of whom have been in charge of the School at one time or another.

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5EB (Tel: 01-303 6669) asking for any helmet plates, cap badges, and collar insignia. Anyone who can help is asked to communicate with Mr. Farley direct.

### Branch AGM

Agendas for the meeting on May 20, are ready and waiting for the quarterly bulletins which I hope will be here by the third week in April. Should there be further delay the agendas will be sent off and the bulletins will follow at a later date. The Chief Constable has stated his desire to attend and say a few words to members on this occasion which will be our last A.G.M. before his retirement. Members will

also have the opportunity of meeting the Chief Constable designate (Mr. Robert Bunyard).

### News of 'old 'uns'

Pensioners will be sorry to learn that ex C. Insp. Freddie Windsor, formerly of Grays, has suffered another stroke which was followed by double pneumonia and he is now in Billericay Hospital (St. Andrews — Churchill Ward). I visited him on March 30, and again on April 7, and found him getting around with the aid of a metal frame, he is still his old cheerful self and he would like to see any old colleagues that are passing through Billericay — any time is visiting time. Freddie is in his 80th year but his latest trouble has certainly

taken its toll. I am sure that all who knew him will wish him a speedy recovery to his normal health. He is having therapy treatment for leg and arm and it is not known how long he will remain an in-patient.

### Magazine

Several requests have been made from time to time for copy of the Force Magazine which is published in July and December each year. Anyone wishing to be on the mailing list should send 40 pence (which includes postage) to C/Supt. J. F. Challis, Police Station, New Street, Chelmsford. As the postage amounts to 15p per issue you get two issues for 5 pence per issue which is good value for money.

# Uniform takes pension



FOR THE LAST five years Ron Key has been fixing up members of the force with their uniform down in the cavernous uniform stores at Headquarters. Last month he was 65 and from now on he's "going to put his feet up."

At the end of March his colleagues threw a party to celebrate Ron's new found status as gentleman of leisure and Mr H. Taylor, A.C.C. (A), went along to present parting gifts of a carriage clock, and a bouquet for Mrs. Key.

## Obituary



ON 27th March, P.c. William George Kimpton, aged 52 years, collapsed and died suddenly at his home in Ashington Road, Rochford.

He joined Southend Borough Police Force in 1951, and for the past 10 years was a member of the mounted section at Southend. His partnership with police horse Winter spanned the whole of that period.

A keen gardener and do-it-yourself enthusiast, George left a widow and baby daughter.

## FROM SOUTH YORKS



WELCOME to Essex to Detective Chief Inspector Maynard Cartledge recently transferred from South Yorkshire to Scenes of Crime Department, Headquarters.

Married with two daughters, Mr Cartledge, a fingerprint expert, brings eighteen years specialised experience to the force. He started his career in 1955 when he joined Sheffield City Police and in 1960 trained as a scenes of crime officer and has been so employed since.

He came to Essex on 6th March and says he is impressed with the Department and the attitude towards Scenes of Crime Work in the County. Mr Cartledge is deputy to Supt, Central Services but supervises the work of photographic and fingerprints which make up "Scenes of Crime".

# When the job really was a job



HARKING BACK to the days when policework really was policework. Note the bike with its acetylene lamp, and the bugle is a really nice touch. Pictured in the Great War, this was the method of signalling the approach of the zeppelins — and their departure.

Of course in the next war we presumably wouldn't have time to get the bike out of the shed let alone blow a whistle before the goods arrived. That's progress.

## Big thanks

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2  
violins and elf-horns faintly blowing). No medals were struck for the staff and few were excused boots.

All this is not to denigrate today's news-sheet. The Law is the complete answer to those who insist that the last of the fuzz have already been quietly liquidated without anyone noticing. Clearly this is premature. Just wait until I show them that sea of distinguished faces on pages four and five. Shalom!  
RALPH JONES

Dear Sir,

On the 18th February this year a bad fire occurred at our home in Boreham. Needless to say, my wife and I were horrified at the loss of practically all our home but would like to take this opportunity of expressing our most sincere thanks to all those concerned in restoring our life to near normality. We just didn't realise how many friends we

have and thank heavens for all of them. Special thanks to our next door neighbours ex-Sergeant and Mrs. Denton, for putting us up until we were re-housed, also to Charlie Howlett who performs his job as Force Welfare Officer so very well. Further thanks to Mr. Challis and his men from Chelmsford Police Station for their help in moving us. Last of all to our friends inside and outside of the Police Force, a great big thank you, we will never forget all you did for us.  
JOHN and GWEN WOODS



## IPA notes

OUR congratulations go to the Chairman, Mr. Bunyard, on his promotion to Chief Constable.

Sympathy is extended to Epping member, Lynn Hall, who has been in and out of Hospital recently and is still on the sick list.

### DIARY EVENTS

On the 7 May, Chicko Bates, at Southend, is arranging a trip to the Lyceum in London for the Old Time Music Hall.

On the 12 May, Southend and M.O.D. Sections are combining with a Disco at the Maplin Club.

On the 9 June, there is a Country and Western Dance at Chigwell.

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# Force lottery

RESULT of the draw held at Harlow on Thursday, March 23, 1978.

1st prize P.c. 1453 D. Robertson, Maldon £600.99; 2nd prize D.S. 237 R. R. Stark, Stansted Airport £300.50; 3rd prize P.c. 1475 P. J. Kirby, Rochford £150.25; 4th prize P.c. 105 W. H. Forrest, Leigh £75.12.

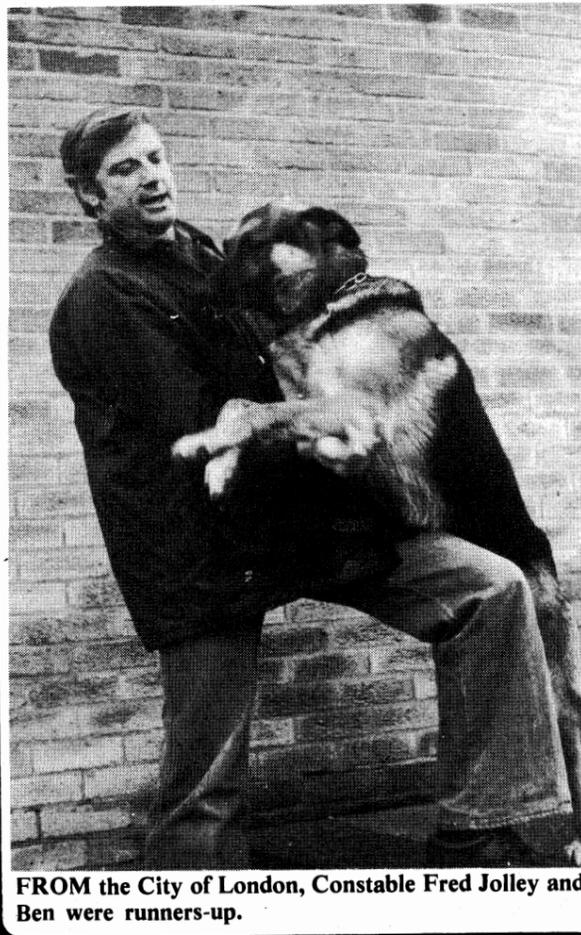
Consolation prizes £15.02 each — P.c. 490 J. A. Surgenor, Chelmsford; Mr. G. Thomas, Basildon; Chief Inspector I. Clark, H.Q. Dog Section; P.c. D. J. Buckley, Maldon; T.W. 158 A. Jolly, Wickford.

The next draw will be held at Colchester Police Station during the evening of 21.4.78.

# Region's dogs meet at Chelmsford



**THE CHAMPS.** Constable Bryan Marks and Windsor of Kent, winners of the 1978 Regional dog trials.



**FROM the City of London, Constable Fred Jolley and Ben were runners-up.**

**ONE PROBLEM** of a three-day-long event which was amply illustrated on the occasion of the Regional Police Dog Trials at Chelmsford last month was that changeable weather can make the luck of the draw very important.

A two hour old track in a howling gale is probably more difficult than the same test after a snowfall when, dare one suggest it, one just follows the footprints. There were also several near cloudbursts to greet some contestants for the hard surface tracking. No doubt a scent is less distinct under half an inch of water.

Chelmsford was not even the main venue, really, since exercises were also carried out at Sandon, Debden and Shoeburyness but these were the unseen — and unsung, probably — aspects of the dogs life.

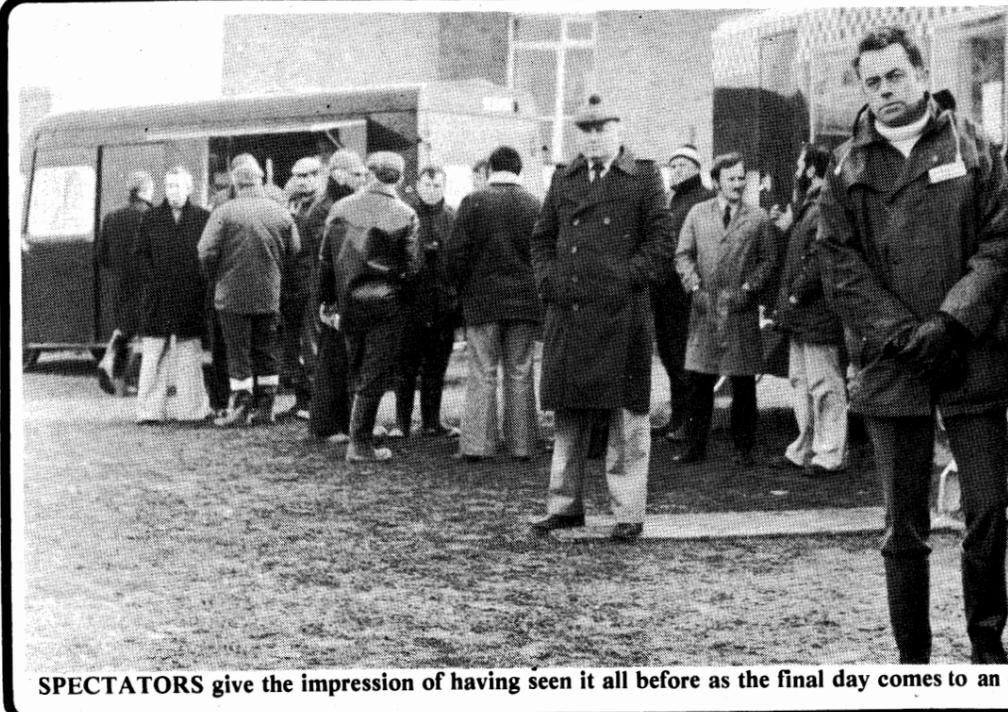
The main spectacular was on the HQ sports field where a succession of constabulary canines did their "good boy" bit, sitting, standing, barking to order, running and jumping, and indeed doing everything but the "roll-over-play-dead" routine more appropriate in any case to the circus ring.

But the real thing — even to the assembled professionals, either dog handlers not competing or who had completed their tests — which brings "oohs" and "ahs" more like a fireworks display, is the chasing and seizing hold.

For three days Neville Shelley and Don Goldsmith ran up and down the field like rabbits, to be seized by the arm and often rolled in the mud.

Again and again Colin Ball brandishing a stick and John Bunn discharging blanks whenever he could get the pistol to work would be seized by eager teeth. The excitement as the dog awaits the appearance of the bulky figure, well padded against all eventualities, is a picture to watch. One can only assume, though none were to be seen lying about, that a special programme is printed in doggyish since the animals seem to know just what comes next.

Perhaps the most exciting moment is the non-stand-off. This is when the criminal, having run away, thinks better of it and stands still. The dog is supposed,



**SPECTATORS** give the impression of having seen it all before as the final day comes to an end.

moreover he is trained, to circle round barking.

Alas, the excitement of the chase seems to affect the eyesight of some dogs who go straight in. Yet they still always get the right arm and so it can't be their eyesight — must be the excitement.

On day three, as results came in from other venues to the control point at HQ, it looked as if Fred Jolley from City of London had done it again with good marks of 817 from 1,000. But it seemed Ben had "been a bad boy" losing odd marks here and there and all of a sudden Bryan Marks of Kent and 3 years old Windsor were ahead with 829.

Four dogs were to qualify for the National Trials in Dorset later in the month.

It seemed as if Essex pair Rod Barrett and Ben who scored top marks on the obedience and criminal work, had booked their tickets but on the long track it was "one of those days, he just never got into it" as Rod said afterwards.

So it was left to Essex champ Drummer with Alan Gilfillan to quietly work into 4th position and a national trial place. But Barrett and Ben can take some consolation at being the best pair on view where the spectators were. Perhaps they'll have to get a fan club to travel to the other venues in support. Now there's a thought — who would control them if they got rowdy?

## Obedience and man-work



**HAMPSHIRE** contestants, Mike Chapman with Thor and John Bryant handling Jet, leave the field after the "long down". This exercise, four dogs at a time are set down on the field and the handlers go away out of sight for ten minutes — hoping for the best. On day 3 a small dog whose name might have been Heinz bounced up to say hallo — but apart from ears laid back the police dogs never moved.



**CROWD** control, separating two trouble makers from each other and from the rest of the group, is another test. Len Liff of Herts gives the orders and Sabre shows his teeth. For this exercise the dog is leashed.



**AS THE** handler doubles up to take charge, Colin Ball hopes the teeth won't find their way through his padding. Four Essex handlers were employed as villains throughout the 3 days but no-one was badly nipped. Colin Ball was the man with the stick.

**Band**  
notes  
by Heather Wenborne

**BANDNOTES** are back again after quite a long absence, apologies to all those of you who have missed the regular spot, but I will endeavour to bring you up to date with band news.

Over the past few months we have lost some of our more established members, a noticeable loss was felt when Chief Superintendent Peter Nobes moved on promotion to "brass band country," we not only lost Peter Nobes, but also his two daughters who both played regularly with the band.

Another big change for the band is a new President. When our former President Mr. Duke departed for Hampshire it left the position vacant, but not for long by any means and means unknown the new

Deputy Chief Constable Mr Bunyard agreed to be, and has become the President of the Essex Police Band.

On Tuesday February 21st the band gave a concert in the Archer Hall, Billericay, organised by the local Rotary Club. It was an enjoyable evening from the Band's point of view and also in the view of the audience judging from the remarks I heard afterwards. The spotlight was certainly on the soloists of the concert with a euphonium solo from Harrold Hull, a cornet trio played by Wendy Norton, Brian Tyrrell and Gwyn Williams, a trombone solo from guest soloist Keith Duxbury and our bandmaster Geoffrey Broome who once again had the audience spellbound with his post horn gallop. Also on the programme were songs from the soprano Heather Walford. Unfortunately our own Charlie Wood was unable to perform his ever popular piano solos as he had a finger injury, which was displayed above the heads of the band for all to see! but despite Charlie's finger the concert was a success, well attended and very rewarding to play in.

This time of year is not a busy time in the band's calendar, a chance for the band to take it easy before another busy summer. "Not true" I hear band members say, the Essex Police Band never takes it easy, it may appear so with few

## Swim in August

**PROPOSED** date for this year's Force long distance swim is Thursday, August 17 at 11 a.m. It is hoped that it will start at Westcliff Jetty and finish at the Leigh Yacht Club at Leigh.

There will be the usual individual and team awards and entry fees of 50p, started experimentally in 1977, will be continued.

concerts but we are rehearsing just as hard in preparation for next summer.

There are already nine engagements the band have agreed to undertake in the coming months and a few that have had to be turned down for various reasons, but it is very much regretted by the band that we have been usurped from our arranged biennial visit to Eynsham Hall this summer for the ceremonial pass-out parade, when H.R.H. Prince Charles will be the inspecting officer. If the engagement had been undertaken in Essex, such is the importance of the Royal visit and undoubted prestige that we would no doubt

have invited the Thames Valley Band to share the parade with us. Perhaps if this is read by them, instead of apologies they may feel that an offer of sharing the engagement could be extended to us. There are more politics to Police Banding than the tiddlyom-pom of the village garden party than meets the eye.

Our next Band engagement is Wednesday 24th May Christ Church, New London Road, Chelmsford.

Your support is always welcomed and appreciated; you may be pleasantly surprised if this will be your first band concert!

Good Listening

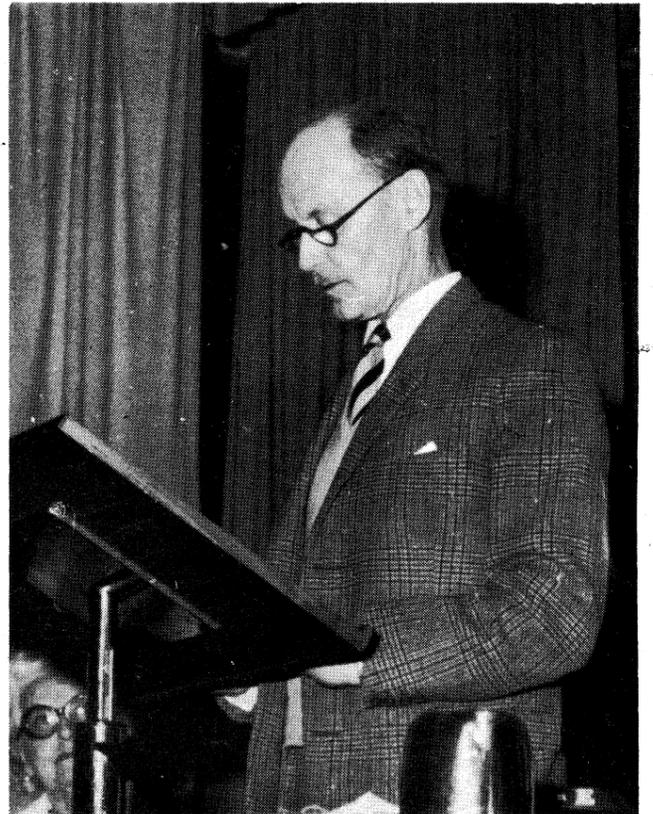
# The night the gaol caught fire



**OPENING** the proceedings, J.B.B. Chairman, Ted Davidson, introduced the guests and reviewed Federation activity and aspirations.



**OBVIOUSLY** an enjoyable occasion for Sir John and Lady Nightingale as they receive the federated ranks' gift to mark the Chief's retirement.



**A FEATURE** of recent Federation open meetings has been the attendance of Brigadier T. Collins, Chairman of the Police Committee, here seen addressing the meeting.

IT MIGHT have been something of a non-event coming, as it did, in the "Phoney-war" period of waiting for the Edmund-Davies balloon to go up. No doubt this was reflected in the attendance, down on other years when there were burning topics to be discussed.

This is to assume, of course, that apathy has not taken a grip again.

But two things — not entirely unconnected — happened to inject an air of jollity into the proceedings. For one thing it was the night the prison caught fire!

This came to light during the Chairman's speech and, as no-one could remember Ted Davidson setting anything alight before, sparked off some merriment in the audience and, indeed, on the platform.

Mr. H. Taylor, ACC (O), was seated on the platform nearest the door when a note was handed to him, "The jail is on fire". As the note progressed along the line towards the Chief the eyes of the audience began to follow its progress.

The Chief wrote on it, "Who did it, the residents?" and passed it back, each link in the line smiling broadly as it passed.

No-one in the hall was now either watching or listening to the Chairman who interjected to ask if all might share the joke as his speech couldn't compete with such interruptions.

Later, as the situation developed announcements were made asking for radio operators and traffic personnel and in each case more than a dozen left at once.

Said Mr. Taylor afterwards, "I think it is outstanding that at a time of great dissatisfaction over pay, officers immediately answer a call to perform extra duty with no idea of how long it will last or what it

**Thanks**

Dear Sir,  
My wife and I would like to thank all the Federated ranks for the magnificent gift which was presented to me on Monday night.  
I have already been given a short course in Music Centre appreciation and hope that a spell of in-service training will make me proficient in the use of this wonderful instrument.  
Would you thank all concerned.  
J. NIGHTINGALE  
Chief Constable

will consist of. No-one else would do it."

Then came the presentation of the Federation's parting gift to the Chief and Lady Nightingale who had been asked to attend especially.

Handing over a music centre, Sir John's choice, Ted Davidson remarked that, "we are honouring the most distinguished Chief Constable in the country today." Lady Patricia received a bouquet.

**Review**

The Chairman opened the meeting with a review of the Federation scene. He deplored the attempt by Metro Police to obtain a higher salary for their force, and quoted figures to show that their job is no more arduous than any other police officer's.

**Housing**

Thanking Brig. T. Collins for the part the Police Authority played in raising the rent allowance, Ted

Davidson went on to outline a new approach to police housing in Essex presently being sought by the J.B.B.

This includes the right of everyone to buy his own house; selling off unwanted police houses, to police officers where possible; a new modernisation programme; better terms for redecoration including the right to have a police house into which you move, redecorated throughout.

He wound up by observing that "in his heart" he believed that Lord Edmund Davies would "place us in a fair and proper stratum of society."

**The Chief**

Commenting on pay Sir John said, "Your chairman has speculated on what will happen if as he says "the Service is let down again." May I offer a few words of advice.

"In my view the events of last summer did your cause more harm than good — harm which was in my view only remedied by the agreement reached in the Autumn and by the subsequent help given to the public during the firemen's strike. There is no doubt that public opinion is on your side.

"No doubt if you feel the result of the present inquiry and the Government's response are inadequate you will feel called upon to take some positive action. Meanwhile I suggest you hold your horses. I feel Lord Edmund Davies and his Committee are well disposed towards the police case — and I have appeared before them three times. They will certainly not react favourably towards any ill-considered move. You have already failed once to shift the government and are not likely to succeed again."

**Force Budget**

Publicity has been given to the fact that in the present financial year Essex is spending less on its Police Force than any other police authority," the Chief said. "This is not due to any meanness on the part of the County Council or the Police Authority but to three factors.

"We cannot in Essex recruit and retain enough policemen and policewomen and have experienced this problem on and off over a number of years. All the time the population of the County has been growing and consequently now our ratio of police to public is 1.7 per 1,000 compared with a national average of 2.1."

The Chief also attributed the present situation to the policy of central government, adding, "Finally I think we can be proud of our good housekeeping and financial control."

**Manpower**

Sir John said that shortage of manpower was our main problem. He explained, "To help remedy this shortage last year there was introduced a system of voluntary overtime working. Originally this was limited to foot patrols but there has been some relaxation in this requirement. The scheme seems to be very popular with the public who like to see policemen about the streets but not so popular with some policemen who do not seem particularly fond of walking up

and down. There seems to be growing up an attitude of mind in some young policemen that unless they are rushing about in motor cars answering calls from the public or doing enquiries they are not fully employed. Nothing could be farther

**Letter received by the Chief after the Prison fire**

SIR, — As Deputy Governor In Charge of Chelmsford Prison on the night of Monday 20 March, I would like to express on behalf of the Prison Board, the Governor and myself, our keen appreciation and most grateful thanks for the magnificent response which your staff made to the emergency created by the very serious fire in the prison.

That all prisoners were safely evacuated from the burning buildings without either loss of life or injury to prisoners or staff and that the subsequent evacuation of the prison population to Wandsworth and Pentonville was carried out so efficiently, quickly and smoothly, reflects the very greatest credit on the coolness, steadiness and devotion to duty shown by all concerned in most trying and difficult circumstances.

The way in which your staff responded to this emergency was in the best tradition of the Police Force and I would be grateful if you would convey to them the thanks and appreciation of staff at Chelmsford Prison and those of the Prison Board.

R. MOLE  
Deputy Governor

from the truth. The primary duty of the police service is the prevention of crime and the sight of the police officer on foot in uniform about the streets of our towns should be one of the chief aspects of crime prevention work.

I talk to many of you during the year and most of you agree with me in principle. It is when the actual walking has to be done that there is less enthusiasm. Nonetheless it must come back, even if a certain amount of re-education has to be done.

**Promotions**

The Chief made the point that while 97 promotions during last year was fewer than in 1976, it was still higher, at the lower levels, than numbers passing

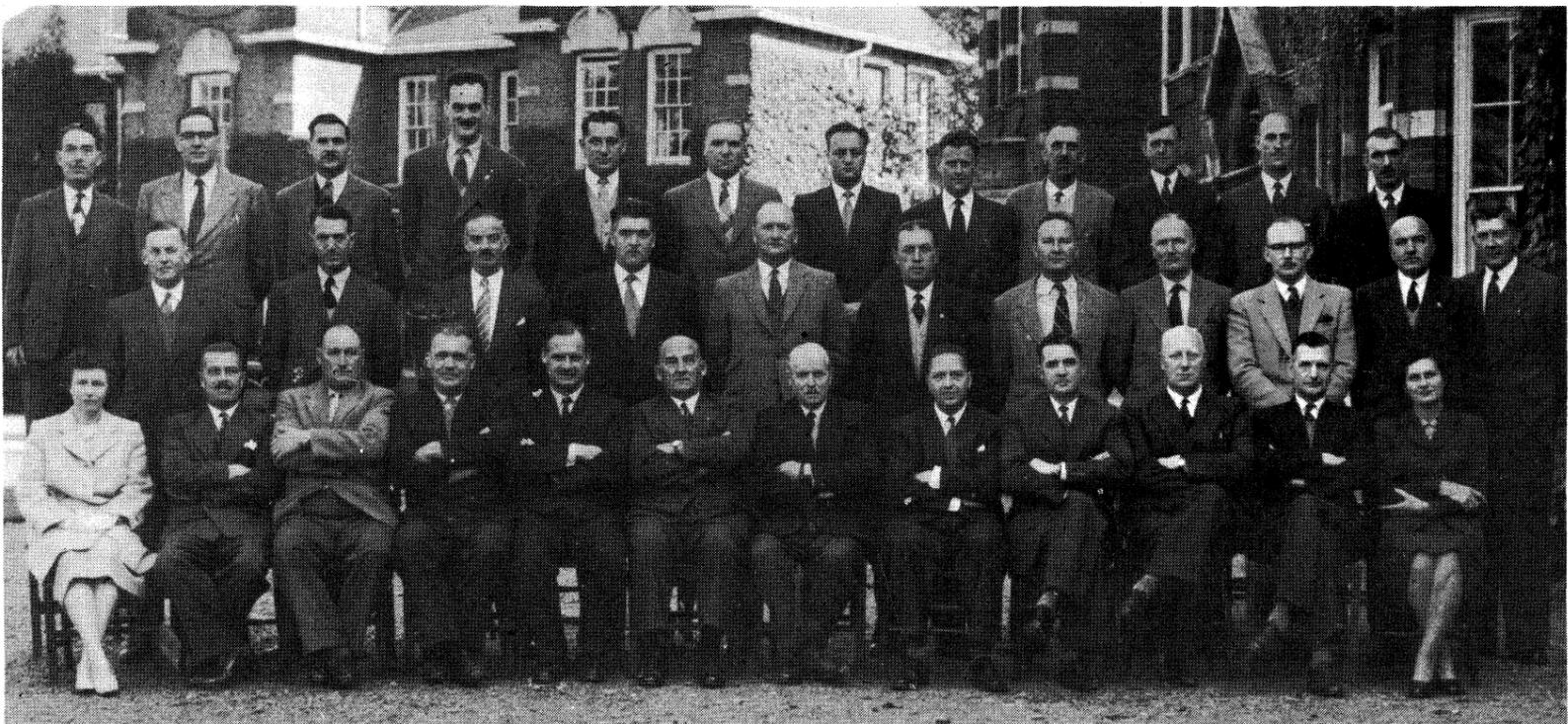
promotion examinations. For example there were 17 passes to Inspector but 21 promotions. "If this continues we shall have trouble," he concluded.

**Crime**

"Crime rose by 10.7 per cent over 1976 following on a 5 per cent increase last year and a 7 per cent increase the year before, imposing a heavier burden of investigation and of documentation and as we have no increase in resources of manpower, police and civilian, everyone has to work harder."

The Chief remarked, "This cannot go on indefinitely. We have no reserve of manpower from which to strengthen the CID and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



**Twenty years ago**

TWENTY years on and only two faces left. This was the Essex Police Federation JBB in 1958-9. How many can you remember? To help, the names are printed upside-down.

- O. Butler.
- W. Petherick, Ps 15 Droy, W/Insp.
- Woodward, Secretary JBB, Insp.
- Chairman JBB, DPs. 44
- Constable, Ps 74 Bowler,
- Capt. F. R. J. Peel, Chief
- ACC, Mr. G. P. Sutton, ACC,
- Smedley, Mr. J. C. Nightingale,
- L. Fisher, Ps 416 Davies, Ps 356
- Seated: Wps. 4 Sandford, Insp.
- W. Vickers, Insp. N. Cressy.
- Hawes, Dc 962 Bloodworth, Insp.
- Saxby, Insp. P. Stanley, Insp. L.
- Smith, Ps 58 Knight, Ps 715
- E. Fox, Insp. E. Loats, Ps 118
- Middle row: Ps 121 Bull, Insp.
- Llewellyn.
- Raid, Insp. G. Brown, Ps 7
- Le Vol, Ps 547 Gough, Ps 740
- 111 Giles, Ps 486 Norris, Ps 863
- 477 George, Dc 341 Oakley, Ps
- Ps 126 Bailey, Insp. H. Rand, Ps
- Back row, from left: Ps 60 Dunn,

## Walkers hit form

WITH the annual police spectacular, conducted on the A13 road between Barking and Southend approaching, the walking squad seem to have run into form at exactly the right time. Actually one should say walked into form, the vigilance of the judges being what it is, competitors never run very far.

In the Basildon 50kms race on 8th April (the "Barking" is 53kms) three of the team were on excellent form, won the team race and gave themselves a psychological boost in time for their defence of the team

### RESULTS

National 10 miles: Crystal Palace: 18.3.78.

34th D. Sheppard, 74.22; 83rd J. Hedgethorpe 81.23; short course, 200 started.

Essex 10000 mts: Newham: 28.3.78. 7th D. Sheppard 48.27; 19th J. Hedgethorpe 53.49.

Battersea 20 kms: 1.4.78. 23rd J. Hedgethorpe 108.58.

Bad Kreuznach 20 kms: 1.4.78. 7th D. Sheppard, 99.40.

P.A.A. 10 miles: Leeds: 5.4.78. 10th J. Hedgethorpe 88.48.

Essex 50 kms: Basildon: 8.4.78. 2nd P. Ryan 4.31.00 (Force record); 7th D. Sheppard 4.41.42; 11th J. Hedgethorpe 4.58.50. Team placed 1st.

P.A.A. 10 miles v. RAF and Civil Services: 12.4.78. 11th D. Sheppard, 79.11; 19th J. Hedgethorpe 86.10.

INTER-DIVISIONAL darts has progressed to the point where the final has been arranged for Southend on 4th May. The opposition will be Basildon.

An extension has been applied for and play begins at 8 p.m. No doubt, by closing time, if you hit the board you win.

Teams of five, four men, one woman, make up each team.

## Open Meeting

— from page 5

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5 unless matters improve some unpalatable decisions may have to be taken."

Sir John said there had been a greater volume of accidents, injury accidents are up by 2.8 per cent, a 4 per cent increase in prosecutions is matched by a 5 per cent increase in fixed penalty tickets.

### Women in the Force

Some concern had been expressed to the Chief by officers about the increasing number of women officers in the force. He added that girls are not recruited instead of men — when candidates for the force are seen by the recruiting board all those likely to make efficient police officers, be they male or female, are taken in. "I am not prepared to reject a candidate merely because she is a woman. To do so in our present shortage of officers would seem to me to be not only unlawful but ridiculous."

"Clearly we cannot recruit an unlimited number of girls but I do not think we have yet reached a point where our policy should be changed," Sir John stated.

With the wry humour for which he is so well known in Essex, Sir John Nightingale wound up, "This is the last time I shall address an open meeting and I would like to thank you as representatives of the force, past and present, for the consistent effort you have put in to your duties and your admirable performance of them. Essex has a good reputation in the Service as an efficient force coping well with many difficult problems. I have always tried to ensure that the force is well equipped with the essentials. I believe that the Police Service is, and should continue to be an organisation in which orders are given and obeyed, but I believe these orders should be considered given and willingly obeyed.

"No doubt when I have gone there will be changes and no doubt these changes will add to your efficiency. You will no doubt adjust to them. However, I have a few months to go, 3 months and 10 days to be precise, and during that time I will endeavour to live up to

title in the police event in May.

Peter Ryan, though tired towards the end, had walked hard enough to defeat Bob Dobson, British record holder at this distance. He ended in second place only one minute short of the elusive 4½ hours mark. He has now flown to Mexico for a month's training holiday at altitude. No doubt he will return fitter than ever or collapsing with "gyppy tummy."

Although Denis Sheppard has walked several Barking races he had not previously tackled a straight 50kms. Although his last 10kms was almost the slowest of anyone in the race he nevertheless recorded an excellent time. The team was completed by John Hedgethorpe on his best form for several years, and for the first time ever Police had three men under five hours for the distance — 31 miles in English.

The PAA championship was a bit of a disaster, and having started three walkers, Essex could only finish one, Hedgethorpe in tenth place. The course was pleasant enough in Roundhay Park, Leeds, but a little long.

The national 10 miles at Crystal Palace was certainly not long. A good half-mile short was the verdict as unbelievable times were recorded.

The main team competition of the year is the Essex Walking League, and the 50kms at Basildon boosted the Police score enough to lift them into second place. Holding this until Christmas might be another matter, but with Sheppard in third place and Hedgethorpe sixth, the squad are well represented.

From those anywhere near the A13 on 21st May, the team would welcome support, the Barking to Southend race begins at 9am and

# Collinge finalists emerge

ONE problem after another has beset the Force soccer championship this year. First the fire strike made duties difficult and matches were consequently put off.

Then H.Q. and Basildon, drawn together in the preliminary round, played a goal-less draw and had to be rematched. In the replay Basildon were without Gamman which left them without direction in front. H.Q. were quick to take advantage and slipped in three goals before half-time through Peter Taylor and Mick Benning (2).

Basildon stopped the rot in the second half but were unable to reduce the deficit. H.Q. went on to meet Southend and were at full strength with Dave Wilkinson back. In fact he scored one of their five goals, the others being credited to Taylor, Paul Smith and Benning (2).

Grays beat Chelmsford in the other quarter final by the handsome margin of 5-0. The first semi-final is between Colchester and Rayleigh and is scheduled for this week.

Last week H.Q. were at home to Grays to sort out who should enter the final. H.Q. managed another goal-less game but in the first 5 minutes of extra time Grays scored 3 and H.Q. one. Another goal near the end put H.Q. in reach of another draw but Grays hung on and go into the final.

The Force team has enjoyed mixed fortunes but in the last two games the return of Paul Gamman has given more punch up front and a draw with Baddow and a win against Dunmow resulted.

Efforts are currently being made to persuade Bob Scott who kept goal regularly for the force team some seasons ago to return to the team. Bob is pictured, left, in a divisional match. There is no doubt he is too young by football standards to be in retirement, even only partial.



IN the inter-divisional match between HQ and Basildon, Bob Scott goes at full stretch to cut out an HQ attack. But he couldn't stop them all and HQ won 3-0.

passes Grays before 11am and Stanford-le-Hope about 11.40am. By 12.30pm the leaders are through Pitsea and arrive at the Rootes Hall football ground, Southend, anytime from 1.40pm onwards.

Why not sit in the sun and watch Essex win? Well, that's what the team say. The bar will be open and the sun will shine, so come along to the police sports event with the best atmosphere of them all.

### ROYAL COMMISSION ON CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

Members views sought by Ted Davidson — Chairman, Essex J.B.B.

Whilst it may have been somewhat overshadowed in Police circles by another "Review Body" currently delving into Police pay, etc., the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure under the Chairmanship of Professor Sir Cyril Philips is now gaining momentum.

The terms of reference of the Commission include: (1) The powers and duties of the Police in respect of investigation of crime and the rights and duties of suspects and accused persons, and (2) The process of and responsibility for prosecution of criminal offences.

Bodies submitting evidence are asked to keep in mind the balance between the community's interest in bringing offenders to justice and the rights of those who become involved in the criminal process.

In its early deliberations, the Commission have itemised what it describes as "Terms of reference by topic", reproduced verbatim:—

### THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

Annex

- powers to stop and search a person or vehicle;
- powers to enter and search premises and to seize property;
- powers of arrest;
- detention for questioning;
- the questioning of suspects, including cautioning, the taking of statements and confessions, and the possibility of tape-recording or otherwise recording interviews;
- the right of silence during investigation;
- the right of the suspect to have access to legal advice and to other persons;
- the particular rights of juveniles;
- photographing, fingerprinting and medical examinations of suspects or accused persons;
- identification procedures;
- the means by which the powers and duties of the police are secured and enforced;
- the means by which the rights of suspects are guaranteed and made effective;
- bail from a police station;
- bail by a court;
- the criteria for prosecution;
- the decision to prosecute;
- the responsibility for the conduct of prosecution;
- organisational arrangements for the present prosecuting system, including the status of prosecuting solicitors' departments;
- the function and duties of the Director of Public Prosecutions;
- the role of the Attorney General;
- the activity of other prosecuting agencies;
- the right of private prosecution;
- preparation for trial, including the mutual disclosure of the evidence and proposed line of argument, whether at committal proceedings or otherwise, and changes of charge and plea.
- such matters arising at the trial as bear on the investigation stage, in particular the tests to be applied to the admissibility of evidence against the accused, and the accused's right of silence at the trial.

It is my belief that the opinions of working policemen are essential to the Commission in order that a balance may be struck against the probable evidence of the "Civil Rights Sector".

I ask each and every one of the experienced officers within the Federated Ranks of the Essex Police to give the above headings close thought and serious discussion with your colleagues. Having done so in order that I may collate your views, please send me written reports/letters, by 1st May, 1978, (using the relevant tabulations from the 24 listed above for ease of collation), so that I may pass them on to your J.B.B. sub-committee (set up specifically to sift evidence on behalf of Essex Federation members) who in turn will submit recommendations to the Joint Central Committee for inclusion in its evidence to the Commission. The reports/letters could obviously come from either individuals or on behalf of, say, a whole shift, C.I.D. office, etc.

I earnestly ask you all, please, to make an effort in this instance, for, remember, the aims of the Police Federation are "Efficiency" as well as "Welfare".

Ted Davidson  
Chairman — Essex J.B.B.  
Member — J.C.C.

## Athletes' bad day

A DISASTER was how the athletics secretary described Essex efforts in the PAA cross country and race walking championships at Leeds on 5th April.

For a start only 3 runners turned out — a team is 4 — and then only one walker out of 3 lasted the distance.

The 3 runners were well placed in a field of 200. Steve Pearmain who left training school for Grays about 2 months ago, placed 53rd to lead the Essex contingent home. He was followed by Martin Atkinson 79th and an off form Alex Vowles, 101st, just about half way down the field.

This ends the cross country season and attention turns towards the track. Essex Police championships will be at Chelmsford on 1st June and the Regional event on the same track on 14th June.

### National Cadet championships

IN THE END they weren't last though this was a failure of a sort.

On March 29 the Essex Police Cadet Corps — all six of them — contested the national cadet cross country championship at Loughborough. Being the undisputed smallest cadet outfit in the country, 5 boys and a girl, there was little point in thinking about winning the team event.

And, if you can't appear at the top of the result list the next greatest distinction is to be at the bottom.

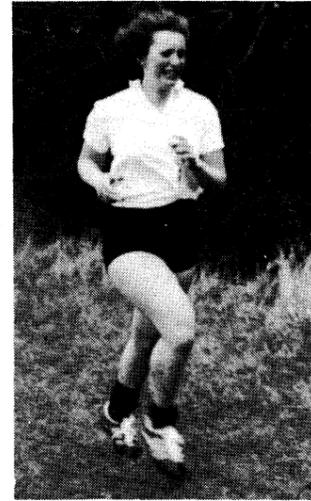
The girls went first and the lone Essex entrant, Sue Watson, finished 76th, a good effort though any effort to finish further back would have come to nothing as the tail enders walked all the way.

The boys set off on their 2-lap stint and the Essex attempt was given a great boost when Andy Hayman who had been in the first six on lap 1, dropped out not having entirely recovered from illness.

Gary Barrett took 60th place, a great run in a good class field but perhaps he forgot the team effort. The heavy mob, pursuing the rest of the field were more on target, Wilson Kennedy, 144, Jon Orman, 145 and Chris Winstone, 146. In a field of 150 this should have stitched it up but when the scores

were worked out it was found that Northants Cadets had outdone Essex and finished last.

But as they said afterwards, at least they were there: Essex had the longest hair of any team on display, and Orman was the fittest runner by a clear 3 stone — and he still wasn't last — it just wasn't their day.



OFF first for Essex, Susan Watson in the girls race.



THE heavy mob get to grips with the back of the field — but already they have allowed some to get behind them

## Shooting

AFTER the success of the Rifle Shooting section at Imber Court, Surrey, in June 1977, only two members managed to get to Bisley in August 1977. Malcolm Byde of Colchester spent the week there, taking some annual leave to compete in the many competitions. He won himself a Mastershot badge for a score in excess of 385 x 400 in one competition and in the Police Individual Long Range Competition he scored 377 x 400 for which he won an Expert Badge.

Rob Wolton also of Colchester only went for the one day Police Championships and unfortunately his scores were not as good as Imber Court in June, he only managed a 373 x 400, 2 points short of an Expert Badge but enough for a Marksman Badge.

In the PAA Individual Long Range Competition, for 1977, both Rob Wolton and Malcolm Byde got through the Qualifying Stage for the South East Region. Rob Wolton scored 388 x 400 and Malcolm Byde 391 x 400. This is 2 cards at 50 yards and 2 at 100 yards. In the Final Regional Stage Rob Wolton became South East Champion with a score of 385 x 400, he won a silver medal. Malcolm Byde was runner-up with a score of 375 x 400, he won a bronze medal. Both scores less than the Qualifying Stage but enough to beat the other South East Region shooters. The South East Region consisting of Kent, Surrey, Hampshire, Sussex, Thames Valley and Essex.

## Flying for Police

THE eighth Police National Air Rally is being organised by the Leicestershire Constabulary and will be held at Leicester Airport on Wednesday and Thursday, July 19 and 20, 1978 by kind permission of the Airport operators, the Leicestershire Aero Club Limited.

There will be the usual competitions during the rally:

- Precision Time Trial for the "Police Review" Cup which will certainly require accurate flying;
- Navigation Competition for the Royal Aero Club and United Services Trophy which will take competitors on an interesting trip around the historical Leicester Hunting County, duration about one hour;
- Precision Spot Landing for the Metropolitan Police Flying Club Trophy and
- Best overall pilot/navigator for the Dimmer Trophy.

In addition there will also be awards for the best student pilot and the pilot flying the furthest distance to the Rally.

P.C. Dick Gays, a keen parachutist, will also be giving demonstration jumps and would be interested to hear from any other Police officers who are experienced in parachuting who would like to attend.

Any persons interested in competing or attending should contact Gort Measey at the Leicestershire Constabulary Training Department, Blackbird Road, Leicester for further details and an application form.



## March intake

ONCE AGAIN the month's squad of recruits includes transferees from other forces and it was stores' inability to kit them out in time for the picture rather than their hardihood which took them out of doors in shirtsleeves. The postings clerk spread them thinly, as follows, former occupations in brackets.

Front from left: L. Brewster (Cadet) Harwich; W. Rose (Telecommunications) Ongar; S. Smith (Manager) Saffron Walden; B. Ganley (Bank Clerk) Epping; P. Fincham (Cadet) Harlow; P. Rice (Cadet) Clacton; C. Russell (Engineer) Southend; J. Taylor (Office Clerk) Clacton.

Middle row: R. Hurrell (School) Clacton; G. Clarke (Cadet) Tilbury; G. Cousins (Suffolk Police) Ongar; A. Spong (Metro Police) Basildon; M. Dodd (Bank Cashier) Southend; H. Oakley (Army) Clacton.

Rear: P. Hood (Cadet) Ongar; N. Davidson (Lancs Police) Brentwood; J. Waterman (Beds Police) Braintree; R. Woodcock (Lancs and Hong Kong Police) Chelmsford; J. Loftus (Student) Clacton.

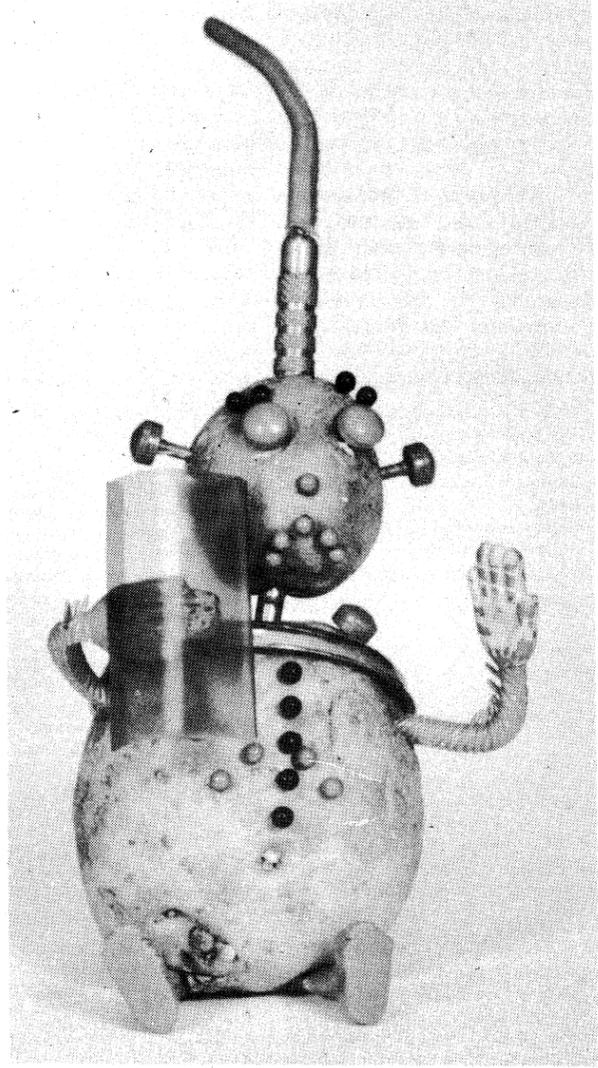
## UFO fever hits the far country up Manuden way

"HELLO, VG from GT 20. It's landed in a field at Manuden. Can I have assistance please?"

These were the immortal words spoken by the sole crew member of GT 20, P.c. Neil Everard. This officer would go down in history, the first human ever to have made contact with the strange alien creatures that had just landed in a potato field at Manuden, a small village on the outskirts of Stansted.

This had been an unforgettable evening — no-one really believed it would ever happen, but here it was, right on our own back potato field. It had all begun at about 10.15pm that evening, Saturday,

IN CHARGE of this UFO in the field was this character Aaron, who died after shouting his rallying call, "For mash get smash." Later pictured at HQ Information Room.



## Pewter statuettes



THE accompanying photographs of the pewter model policeman and policewoman are reproduced in an effort to create interest in a scheme intended to raise additional funds for charities supported by the Essex Police Federation. Each model stands approximately 4ins high and bears the touch mark of the Association of British Pewter Craftsmen.

It is intended that the plinth will be re-designed in detail to show the "Essex Police" scroll as illustrated — sufficient space will be left for personal engravings, i.e. "Presented by Essex Branch of the I.P.A., Seaxes Club" etc.

The price of each statuette, including 50p towards charities, will be approximately £8.50. If a minimum initial order of 250 can be made, then the price would be reduced to approximately £8.

The Federation is assured that the statuettes will never be placed on general sale to the



public — sales will be made only through police forces in similar fashion to that outlined herein.

A pair of statuettes will be held in the Federation Office at Headquarters for perusal.

So that a firm order may be placed, will any person, sports club, association etc, please fill in the accompanying order slip and return same to Federation Office at Headquarters by 31 March, 1978.

No Money/Cheques etc., should be enclosed with the order slip — but it is expected that order slips received, will be honoured by those returning same. It is envisaged that further orders can be made, as and when required — a few statuettes will be available at the Force Federation Office once the system has begun.

### STATUETTE ORDER FORM

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

TEL. NO. ....

POLICEMAN — No. required

POLICEWOMAN — No. Required

SIGNED .....

### ESSEX POLICE ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1978 MELBOURNE STADIUM, CHELMSFORD

THE following is a list of events NOT the order of events. First event will be at 1.45 p.m. The programme will run to time and it is up to contestants to arrive in time.

It is hoped that Divisions will do their utmost to ensure a good entry in 1978. Without cadet events the stadium may otherwise appear very empty.

The winning Division will hold the Charrington Cup. Points will be scored 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, in each event. There is no limit to the number of events an individual may enter, nor to the number of entrants from any Division for each event.

#### EVENTS

<b>MEN</b>		<b>WOMEN</b>
100		100
200		800
400		2000 walk
800		Shot
1500		Javelin
3000 walk		Long Jump
3000 steeplechase		400 relay
1600 relay		
Long Jump	Discus	
High Jump	Shot	
Shot	Hammer	

Entries should be forwarded to Ch. Insp. J. Hedgethorpe, H.Q. Sports Office, by Thursday May 25, 1978, showing which events entrants wish to attempt. Failure to do this may mean athletes being barred.

Queries may be addressed by 'phone to Headquarters, extension 356.

March 25, 1978. A call had been received concerning a mysterious fire at Matching Airfield. GG 10 and GG 7 attended but could find no trace. Within minutes numerous reports started to come in concerning, what was described as 'a low flying aircraft' (L.F.A.) which had been seen in the Dunmow Section. All units were asked to pay particular attention to this and all small airfields were to be checked. Stansted Radar was unable to trace it. More reports came in but still no sign of this L.F.A. Each report stated that landing lights were on and it appeared to be looking for a place to land.

Shortly after, our vigilant, illustrious hero, P.c. Everard, was quietly patrolling the Stansted village when suddenly there it was — the L.F.A. — above his head. As suddenly as it had appeared it disappeared. P.c. Everard took note of it's direction of travel and followed it's course, but still no sign of it. Within a matter of minutes P.c. Everard had sighted the thing, it had landed in a potato field. A large yellow pulsating lamp was seen glowing at the bottom of the field.

The call for assistance was heard and units from all over the Harlow Division were called to make their way to the scene. What was in store for them? GG 11 was one of the first on the scene, with P.c. Alcock.

Who would be the one to investigate, who is that man with the eager expression? P.c. Doug Alcock. So it was decided — P.c. Alcock was chosen to be The Man.

Off he walked, across the potato field into the unknown. Is this the last we see of him? What has

## Sometimes it's lucky to be in the dark

A BIT of luck for some promotion exam candidates came to light last month when it was announced that power cuts during the tests last November might have left some candidates in the dark.

The examiners thought that to award estimated numbers of marks would be inappropriate so affected candidates will be allowed to sit again the papers they failed.

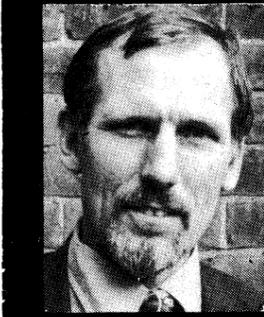
Only the Colchester exam centre was affected in Essex and those concerned are Constables W. Middleditch, M. Spalding, S. Day, P. Matthews, D. Holland and K. Oehlich.

He has discovered the secret of the L.F.A. It is a tractor and trailer with a conveyor belt shaped like a tailpiece, and the yellow light? A road works lamp. The L.F.A. was never seen again.

# Saudi policemen see Headquarters

# Copas flies in

## Federation Notes



by Jim Rodgers

### Force open meeting

THERE is ample coverage of the content of the meeting elsewhere in The Law, so I won't dwell on the subject too long. However, I would like to make one or two points, with regard to the meeting and the interruption of it by the prison fire.

A call went out for trained radio operators, traffic drivers and support unit personnel to assist with the operation of removing prisoners to London; set up roadblocks and additional radio control. Without more ado, thirty or so off-duty Police Officers left the meeting to answer the call — this is the sort of loyalty that is expected of Police Officers — and this is the sort of devotion to duty that is accepted as the norm. It is this twenty-four hour commitment to the Police Service, that the Police Federation consider makes us 'a special case' when it comes to paying the rate for the job! Let us hope that Lord Edmund Davies has some idea how to evaluate this selflessness in monetary terms.

The second point I would like to make is in regard to the catering for those officers who were at the fire, or on roadblock duty on that night. Our catering for the open meeting had been disrupted by the depletion of our audience earlier, and there was considerably more food provided than was required. Mrs. Hehn was asked to ensure that the food left over was used to feed officers on fire duty rather than let it go to waste.

I understand that some senior officer was assuring these officers that 'the Federation is providing meals for all' — which is good publicity, but rebounded rather when the food ran out! It seems that the Federation were then being blamed by some of our members for not fulfilling their promises — now you know what happened, I think you will agree that the criticism should have been directed elsewhere.

Finally on this meeting, I have been asked by the Chief Constable to convey his and Lady Nightingale's thanks to all those concerned in the presentation of a handsome music centre to him, to mark his retirement. His letter is reproduced within these pages.

### Promotion exam

During the November Examination being held at Colchester, there was a power failure which occurred at the last few minutes of the Crime Paper, and for the duration of the General Police Duties Paper. During the latter paper, emergency lighting was in use which was not up to the standard normally expected, and as a result it has been agreed by the Board that where a candidate failed a paper which was affected by the power cut, but passed one of the other two, he or she would be permitted to take both the failed papers at a subsequent date. The Board's schedule of papers affected did not show the effect on the General Police Duties Paper at Colchester, only referring to the Crime Paper. I made approaches



LAST week two groups of policemen from Saudi Arabia visited HQ where their guide was Det Insp Tim Scotchmer. Pictured in the Training School the visitors had just arrived from Colchester where they are attending the English Studies Centre.

# Metropolitan chopper instrumental in arrest of 4

JUST last week came one of the best examples in recent months of co-operation between various branches of the police service to bring about the arrest of four men.

It all began in mid-afternoon on April 11 when the Abridge Constable, Colin Green, was on patrol in Stapleford Abbots. He came upon a motor car, parked as if broken down with one man sitting in it and another outside apparently tinkering with the vehicle.

A check with the Police National Computer revealed that the car was stolen from Tottenham. Colin Green went in headfirst, as his acquaintances would expect, and though one man ran off he managed to detain the other.

A search nearby showed that a countryhouse had been burgled and ransacked. Two more men made off from the scene but the alarm had been raised and assistance was on the way. Colin Green's local

knowledge as the man on the ground in this border country against the Met. Police District now showed itself. "Call the helicopter," came the message to H.Q. Metro. Police have a chopper on patrol in their own area which borders onto the Abridge beat.

Chief Insp. Alan Cartwright arrived from Ongar to co-ordinate the search and Chief Insp. Ian Clark got his dogs moving from all over the county. Eventually six were deployed in the search.

Soon the helicopter was hovering overhead and this immediately had the effect of keeping the fugitives' heads down. Indeed the machine was directly involved in the arrest of one near Hill Hall Prison — what a way to run!

Eventually all four were in custody and at half past seven came the stand down. It had been a quickish job, searches of this type can sometimes last hours.

Supt. Alan Gilling, head

of the Operations Department, when The Law suggested that this was the first case of its kind in Essex, agreed that it could be. "We have had helicopters on trial and they were involved in things like searches over the marshes but probably not in hot pursuit after a crime like this," he thought.

Mr. Comrie, A.C.C., who has looked at the use of choppers in the U.S.A., was more definite: "Without it these men would have escaped," he said. The Law suggested that perhaps some of the plaudits should go to Constable Green.

There is no doubt that between the beat officer, computer, helicopter, radio communication system and the dogs, this clean sweep of four audacious daylight raiders was made possible. The real lesson may be that none could have done it without the others.

### Military Service

At the moment the Police Federation policy on military service is that all of it should count towards police pensionable service. It was hoped that the new State pension scheme would require that servicemen should contribute towards their pensions, so that we would have the opportunity to obtain some interchange arrangements. This has not come to pass, so we must seek other avenues to achieve our aims, and this may take time. One should remember that for 25 years or so the counting of war service (military service between 3.9.39 and 30.6.50) was strongly resisted by the hierarchy — it is rumoured that we obtained it by good fortune rather than good advocacy — it certainly arrived only in the "nick of time" for a few officers, and far too late for some.

To all of us in the Service, and to many outside, it is obvious that a large injection of financial serum is required to stop the haemorrhage of experienced men and women, and to encourage recruiting.

The amount necessary is large; the need is urgent; and phasing must be over the shortest possible term, if it is to have any appreciable effect at all.

for a change in this schedule, but on examining the results, it was found that there was no one who was affected by the omission.

### Pay Inquiry

It had been generally hoped that the interim report which is to be published concerning police pay would be ready for publication by the end of April or early in May, so that it would be capable of discussion at the Police Federation Central Conference which starts on May 16, 1978.

Recent contact with the Joint Central Committee seems to point to a delay on publication which will mean that details will not be known in time for Conference. It is hoped that the delay will be minimal — it certainly is not the intention of either the Police Federation of Government to try to

back", he added, "But my wife knows. She says, 'it would all be changed, you wouldn't like it'. And I suppose that's right. I certainly couldn't go back on the bikes now." John was a Traffic motor cyclist before 1969.

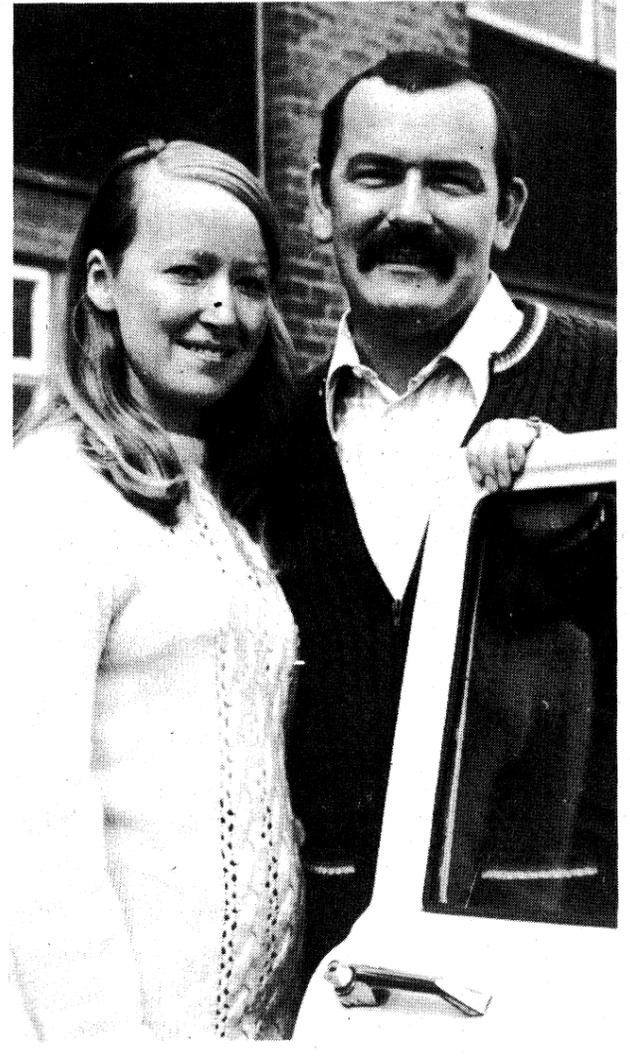
John looked bronzed and fit, as indeed he always has since leaving the Force in 1969 to serve in Bermuda. He had been an Essex policeman for seven years and recalls that his was the last intake to be interviewed by Sir Jonathan Peel before he retired in 1962.

John is in contact with other former Essex men on the far side of the world, "Mick Tatum and Clive Crossman are in the job out there," he told The Law.

"I sometimes yearn to be

He finds now that he doesn't even know Chelmsford. "They've put a dual carriageway right through the middle of it."

John Copas, whose appearance is neat and almost military, finds the appearance of the Force the greatest change since he left. "They've all got long hair now", he remarked with a slightly puzzled look. Times change!



# Davidson on Board

ELECTED to the board of trustees of the Gurney Fund is Ch. Insp Ted Davidson, Chairman of the Essex Federation JBB.

The Gurney Fund is a police charity set up in 1948 after the closure of the Southern Provincial Police School and Orphanage. Subscriptions go towards assisting children of deceased or incapacitated

police officers. In member forces over 80% of personnel subscribe to the fund which currently assists 243 children. Their minimum allowance is £3.50 per week — there is no maximum — and last Christmas they all got a gift of £12.

The local representative is welfare officer Pc Charlie Howlett.

# If you're thirsty it's Friday

NOW those poor souls at HQ who have a blazing thirst after a hard morning or who cannot tackle the afternoon without a livener can face the world renewed.

From late March the HQ bar has been open at lunchtime — but only on a Friday or Sunday.

So if you're thirsty it must be Friday.

# I.P.A. from Page 3

The Surrey Ranch Caravan and Camping Rally will be held at the Surrey Constabulary Sports Ground, The Ridges, Guildford, on Friday 26 May and Friday, 4 June.

As far as Headquarters Section is concerned, D.S. Miller is currently trying to arrange a coach outing to see "Jesus Christ Super Star" at the

Palace Theatre, and also a Buffet/Disco to be held at the D.J.'s in June.

Your representatives will be sending you a memo shortly for your permission to have renewal subscriptions taken out of your salary at County Hall on the 15 December every year. This will save Officers a vast amount of work.