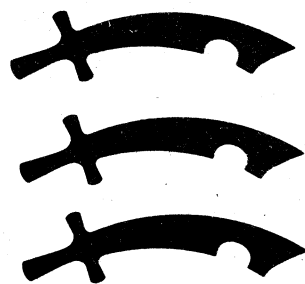




THE LAW



November 1978

No. 110

The Newspaper of the Essex Police

Will and can protect public — Chief

Stopped to pick up this chick



"IT FELL off a lorry, honest," Chris Biggs told The Law. He was just rolling up the A12 at Chelmsford, testing a car from HQ garage when he saw this bundle of fluff in the roadside.

Chris thought it could be a child's toy so he drove round the Oasis roundabout and came back — to find a day-old chick. The wanderer was gathered up and spent a couple of days in the garage V.I.P. suite (a box in the drying room) before moving to fresh quarters as a family pet.

ESSEX Chief Constable, Mr. Robert Bunyard, lost no time in dissociating this Force from the remarks of Sir Robert Mark, former Metro Commissioner, in a recent speech.

In an address to a conference in London Sir Robert had said that police could no longer protect the public from thieves, and the belief that the State could or even wished to protect the people from burglary and theft should be abandoned.

Said the Chief, "This certainly isn't true in Essex. We clear up almost half the major crime."

Detection rates in the first 9 months of this year are 44 per cent for all offences and 34 per cent breaks. And crime has been cut by 5 per cent — almost 2,000 offences — on the same period in 1977.

"Essex Police will and can protect the public against thieves," says Mr. Bunyard.

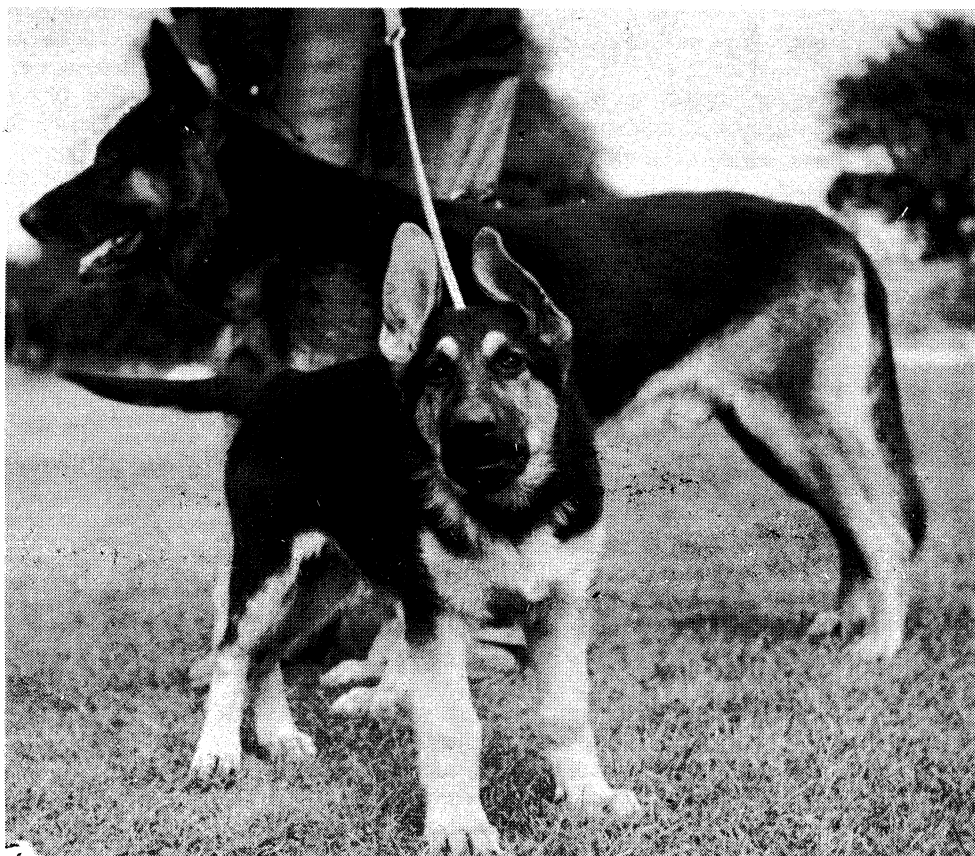
MANPOWER

At a recent meeting of the Police Committee, the Chairman, Brig. T. Collins, touching on one of the problems, manpower, said, "We want another 150 policemen." In this respect the recent recruiting drive, sparked off by the Edmund-Davies pay award, has caused its own problems, stacking up over 100 applicants to await interviews.

The Chief's target is to have the Force up to establishment as soon as administratively possible, and a review of this establishment is currently being carried out.

And the recruiting office is on the way to achieving Mr. Bunyard's target. At the end of October, Force strength hit its highest point ever, 2,411, edging past the previous peak of 2,403 reached as long ago as early 1977. Of the new total, 195 are women.

Dogpower problem solved



"WHAT DO YOU MEAN, cadet training coming back?" this pup seems to be saying. "It IS back and I'm it."

Cody, the Dog Section's answer to Buffalo Bill started work last month — if you can call it work. While his Great Uncle Drummer, last year's force champion, looks unconcerned, Cody prepares to tear the camera lens from shutter.

Cody is 4 months old and will be handled by Alan Gilfillan as 8-year-old Drummer is phased out.

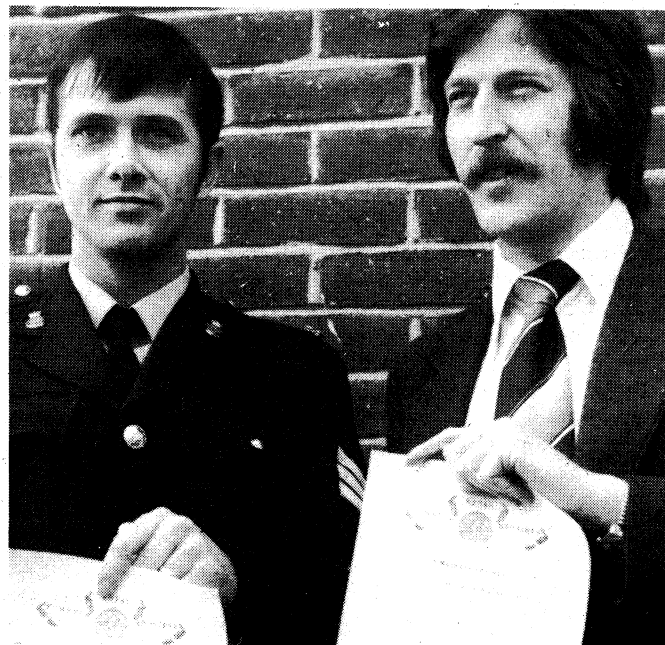
Story and pics. of the 1978 force dog trials on back page.

R.H.S. Certificates for three

WHEN a man collapsed in the entrance to Billericay Police Station last April the efforts of three people brought him back to life.

And at Billericay Court last month the Chairman of the Bench told two of them, "You have done something unique in anyone's life — the saving of another." He handed Sgt. Kevin Doyland, stationed at Billericay and Mr. Steve Birstin a reporter of the Evening Echo, Certificates from the Royal Humane Society.

When Billericay resident, Mr. Harold Grove collapsed, Mr. Birstin and Mrs. Heather Grant, then a civilian clerk at the Police Station but now living outside Essex, immediately began resuscitation. The patient had stopped breathing but together with Sgt. Doyland who came upon the scene and began heart massage they got Mr.



Grove's breathing going.

Again breathing stopped and was restarted for Mr. Grove to be taken to Basildon Hospital. There was a further relapse in the ambulance and with the

attendant Sgt. Doyland had to continue resuscitation procedures. There Mr. Grove recovered and is now in better health though not well enough to attend Court as he is 73.

Holiday Fund reopens in January

THE HOLIDAY FUND for 1979 will commence on 15th January. 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 9th December 1978. All existing participants must complete a new application form for 1979.

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 1 April and 30 September. 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 area, or paid into an officer's own bank account.

Ediview

13th November 1978

Apathy again

THE BENNETT TROPHY competition, the annual contest to find the best probationer constable was little better supported this year than last. Considering the number of young men coming into the force, twenty-seven entrants is pretty poor. But when you think of the number of young women joining — enough to produce ritual alarm in some quarters — the fact that only three took part this year is pathetic.

What is the matter with our young constables? Why are they too tired to take this chance to improve their examination technique and bring themselves to the attention of the Chief?

On the other hand why are they not urged to take part by their senior officers? Surely they ought to be able to see the value of taking part. Yet two divisions, which both have a large number of probationers, had no-one at all taking part. Yes, he is on his old apathy hobby horse again.

But it is a fact that the first winner of the Bennett Trophy, more years ago than he will care to remember, is now the Superintendent in charge of Force Training, so it can lead to higher things. Mind you, some of those who did come spoiled it for themselves by having to be ticked off by the Chief for long hair.

Just for devilment

FROM TIME TO TIME we browse through little old books which people send in to the office setting out the law in terms which even the simplest of constables

could understand. We, too, can understand them you see.

In these terrible times when there is far too much law, added to ever faster by the Westminster wisecracks, an absolute gem turned up in a booklet on lighting of road vehicles in 1928, entitled, "use of green and blue lights."

Certain omnibus operators have used blue or green lamps as omnibus indicators. The use of such lights in the vicinity of railways is open to objection owing to the possibility of their being mistaken for "all-clear" signals by railway engine drivers. It has been found that individual omnibus operators have readily discontinued the practice when asked to do so, and it is hoped by this means, and by drawing attention to the matter in this Memorandum, to avoid the necessity of making any definite prohibitive regulation.

Nowadays such a situation would immediately inspire an unnecessary and slipshod bill which would leave enough loopholes to incite everyone to do precisely what was being discouraged, just for devilment.

Show of hands

WE ARE INDEBTED to that scalliwag — his word in another part of his page — Dogberry for giving our views on differentials a wider airing, through "Police". than they otherwise would have had.

Must his tongue not be firmly in his cheek when he calls for a show of hands — now there's a good old proletarian reaction for you — by chief inspectors about to resign, knowing as he must that no one throws away twenty odd years of pensionable service because of a temporary injustice? Next September might raise a few arms.

And he knows as well as we do that obviously an inspector will step up and so will a sergeant, but at the end of this chain a raw recruit who knows nothing much replaces a sub-divisional commander. And anyway, if all the chief inspectors resigned who would feed Dogberry?

Say what you mean

STANDARDS of English usage are falling all the time we hear and can believe it. A letter sent recently from a senior council official to Southend Police, from which names are omitted to save embarrassment, contained a prime example.

"Now that the study day exercise is over I write to express our appreciation... all these officers took an active part and their participation contributed in no small measure to the problems which had to be solved."

Then again sometimes writers wrap up their statements in such verbiage that the reader is left wondering exactly what was meant. Thus a divisional commander of a probationer, "I think that he is hovering on the verge of taking the first step to gaining confidence."

Now and again the writer says precisely what he means when he might have been better advised to evade the issue. A constable asking to withdraw from the promotion examination reported.

"I report I have applied to sit the Police Promotion Constables' qualifying exam 78. Due to sickness at home and nursing my injured dog I have been unable to study... The date of the exam also coincides with a refresher course for my dog, and in view of this I think it would be of more benefit for my dog to attend his course than for me to sit the exam." — Follow that.

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.

Why denigrate?

Dear Sir,

Whether or not the senior constable — who comes in about 57 varieties — is more equal than his fellows is open to debate. What is not in dispute is his civic value in the shambles of today's wide world outside. The three gentlemen who complained — obviously men of parts and I don't mean spares — will discover this in due course when captains of industry beat a path to their doors at the drop of an application form.

In my book, the best seasoned constable is the linch-pin of a service which even in decline, constitutes society's last bastion. Happy the harassed sergeant with one in his team. Why denigrate him?

In olden days, he was commonly a laconic, immovable object who had cheerfully opted out of the rat-race and remained to master his craft. Silas Saunter lived on black twist, red meat and a yobbo for breakfast: this punishing regimen did not upset his equanimity or his iron-clad metabolism. Highly skilled, he was full of local lore topped up with a local potion. He knew the habits and habitats of the tearaways and the sergeant who lurked by night and shirked by day. He didn't give a monk — a chimpanzee's chatter if it snowed. Peace to him!

He suffered silently the scented-haired sybarites on the Staff who pontificated to his ilk now and then from the

wealth of their experience. And he was cool to expensive pleas on behalf of those alleged to have seen Sump'n Awesome in the Coalhouse at six. His bearing in court was superb. Students of the drama still recall his performance after a brush with earnest youth striving to express itself by clobbering the gendarmerie by night. Silence in court!

Silas hobbled on-stage, recounting in ringing tones the pain that he still felt when feeding. The gentle chairperson's eyes grew moist and the guv'nor's mouth opened slightly. So did mine. Si' remorselessly wrote down the unmentionable epithets employed by the trembling, asterisks in the dock.

Exemplary sentences followed and old Si' was duly commended. He bowed stiffly to the judiciary like Olivier acknowledging the due plaudits of the 'gods,' and made his majestic exit without a limp but with a sense of duty done. He paused to straighten my tie with a horny hand. 'That'll learn them (expletives deleted) a lesson, son,' he said affably, sotto voce.

Ralph Jones

NOW really, we said nothing to denigrate Silas Saunter, confining our remarks to Constable Coe-Tanger, whose sole occupation is to hold up the uniform.

Even allowing for the allegedly crippling wastage rates which panicked the guardians of the public purse into conceding first an enquiry and then a payrise, there must be several dozen senior constables left in the force who did not feel denigrated since they chose neither to write us letters nor send us bombs.

Not even one lorry load of ballast or manure was shot into the driveway of our up-county hideaway on the telephoned instructions of some old sweat —

Top Peeler of 1978



THE PEEL TROPHY, presented by former Essex Chief Constable, Sir Jonathan Peel, to be awarded annually to the constable achieving the highest marks in the police promotion examination to sergeant, was handed to Detective Constable Martin Slade by the present Chief at a disco at Harlow at the end of October.

Martin has spent his 3 years' service at Harlow, the last 6 months being on C.I.D. After passing the exam to sergeant he also successfully passed to inspector. His talent at passing is also put to good use by the force soccer team where he is a regular member of the defence. Martin is pictured with his parents who also attended the presentation.

National Association of Retired Police Officers by Bert Brinkley

Comrades' Luncheon

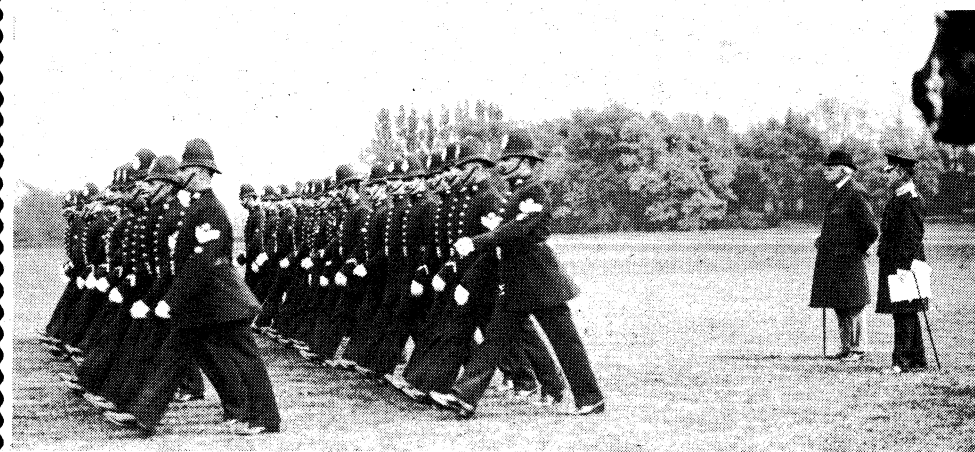
The annual luncheon held on October 18 was attended by over 100 members. It was pleasing to see a number of serving officers, but each year we hope to see even more. The Force Welfare Officer is now Secretary and from discussions I have had with him recently it seems that he intends to boost a recruiting campaign, which has been sadly lacking in the past. An excellent lunch was provided at the County Hotel and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Police Pensions

Those officers who have retired within the last 12 months will soon see that they will have less pension than those who retired 12 months from the effective date of the pay award. In theory, equal service in equal ranks should be rewarded by equal pensions, with the appropriate increases maintaining the purchasing power of the pension over the years. We know, in practice, this is not so and the differences are particularly marked just before and after sporadic pay reviews with which the police service has been affected. Our most recently joined members are bound to feel their pensions are even more depressed than those received by members who retired just before the previous pay award or whose pensions were based on three-year averaging and there are bound to be rumblings about parity of pensions, linking increases to movements in average earnings, or even the whole question of depressed pensions in general. It is hoped that the serving officers will appreciate the significance of such anomalies which may affect them and their widows in the future unless they do something about it whilst they are serving.

On the recognition of First World War service for pension purposes the decision of the R.S.P.

Annual inspection 1920's style



FLASHBACK to the good old days of the 1920's when the HMI's inspection of the Force was just this and not browsing through the books as inspections have come to mean nowadays.

And what better to get the blood circulating than a bit of marching? Now, before you start taking the rise out of Colchester Borough Police, bear in mind that they are marching in line and not shuffling about in threes which is all the Force can manage now.

Continued on page 2

A few turns up at Dunmow

DIFFERENT, that's the way they do things at Dunmow, the picturesque staging post on the road to remote frontier stations, some even more picturesque.

At a Dunmow social evening at the back end of October they had not one presentation, but three. A speaker described one of the recipients as a Character, but looking round the room it was hard to find anyone who might not fall into this classification.

There was a sort of cabaret, or a few turns as it might be termed in these country parts, introduced by John Croot, who qualifies as a Dunmow Character by having asked to be posted there a few years ago from the industrial wastelands of Thameside.

A Robert Bunyard came on and told a few jokes — not enough, mind you, to achieve the title of Character, but as



CHEQUE for £848 displayed by the team who marched 85 miles along the Ridgeway to raise the money for the Police Dependents Trust. From left Terry Scott, Nigel Harmes, John Croot (support vehicle), Alan Harmes, and Andrew Good. Much of the actual cash collecting was left to Alan Harmes as Terry Scott was posted after the walk.



MISS J. Cousins, Secretary of the Dependents Trust, "delighted" to receive the walkers' cheque for £848 from the Chief Constable.



GIFTS for Constable Ted Hodson-Walker retiring from Takeley, and flowers for his wife, presented on behalf of colleagues by Ch. Supt. Williams.

and not an Ooh or an Aarh to be heard

Chief Constable, he doesn't count anyway — and then handed over a cheque for £848 to the Police Dependents Trust secretary, Miss J. Cousins, a Scottish Character, who seemed to find herself quite at home.

This money had been raised by two Dunmow Characters walking the 85-mile Ridgeway, Alan Harmes, the Stebbing Constable these 16 years, and Terry Scott, who was so affected by the experience that he promptly left for Harwich.

The second turn was another out-of-town act, Hank Williams, Harlow patter-man who described Harlow as being the premier Division in the County. This caused less surprise in this company than it might elsewhere in Essex

where there is the widespread belief that Harlow is not part of Essex at all.

Constable Ted Hodson-Walker, the guardian of the law at Takeley, was taking his pension. "He must be rich," observed the comedian, noting that he seemed to have no need of "averaging up", a ritual beloved of big-deal, town-dwelling, time-servers, who would not begin to know the delights of going back to farming as Mr. Hodson-Walker is doing. Known as "Horizontal", this true Character has had his own methods of maintaining law and order at Takeley which have not involved magistrates and other systems widely used elsewhere.

The final act was to make a gift to Sgt. and Mrs. Irons, who were

going to Basildon, it seemed, having requested the move. Mr. Williams made a joke of it but one could see the bewilderment among these dwellers in the Dunmow paradise that anyone should wish to leave their Elysian fields for Basildon "of all places" as the speaker said.

After all, Dunmow was where all this Essex Police business began way back in 1839 when the denizens of such bush villages as Basildon lived in wattle-and-daub huts — or something like that — the occasion was not one for historical verisimilitude.

FROM P.2

Council not to pursue the matter was noted with regret by our N.E.C. and it was agreed the Secretary should circularise in a set form, all those individuals who had responded to an earlier appeal which had been made with the object of ascertaining how many police pensioners might be interested. As far as is known only ONE application was received from the Chelmsford branch.

P.P.H.A. Lottery

The next lottery, No. 7, will commence on December 9, 1978, and cards will be ordered for those partaking in the current lottery unless I hear to the contrary. Price still £1 for 20 weeks. When the Premium Bond prizes are altered in January 1979, the £100 prize will be awarded to the holder of the card bearing the last four figures of the winning £75,000 Bond and, additionally, instead of the near-miss prizes there will be ONE prize of £20 awarded to the holder of the card bearing the last four figures of the winning £50,000 bond.

Association Membership

It is felt that quite a number of pensioners are not joining the Association through a number of reasons, but in order to ensure that each pensioner receives an invitation to join, an enrolment form will be sent out by the Force Welfare Officer to each pensioner. The F.W.O. has to obtain certain information to complete his records and this will ensure that each pensioner hears of the Association

Force lottery

RESULT of the draw held at Rayleigh on Friday, October 27, 1978.

1st prize, Zena A. Marjoribanks, Harlow, £635.38; 2nd prize, Ps 254 A. J. Cooper, Braintree, £317.69; 3rd prize, E. Carter, Harlow, £158.84; 4th prize, Pc 1016 A. R. Rowlands, Ingatestone, £79.42.

Consolation prizes at £15.88 each — Pc 933 K. P. Bidwell, Basildon; Pc 997 R. C. Youngs, Copford; Ps 175 D. A. Johnson, Westcliff; Elizabeth M. Nisbet, Chelmsford; Dc 527 D. R. E. Box, Rochford.

The next draw will be held at Maldon Police Station on the evening of Friday, November 24, 1978.

Fund changes name

THE annual general meeting of the Gurney Fund took place in London on 1st November, attended for the first time by a Chief H.M.I., in the person of Sir Colin Woods.

The meeting resolved to change the name of the Fund to "The Gurney Fund for Police Orphans" so that both inside and outside the Service there would be a clearer idea of its purpose.

Attention all Joggers — I would like to enter an Essex Police team in the 1979 National Fun Run in Hyde Park. It is in aid of the British Heart Foundation.

I have one volunteer, all we need is a minimum of six. Any age — any condition.

If you are interested please contact Brian Hindley at Headquarters extension 515.

Please, no athletes, IT'S A FUN RUN.

Brian Hindley, Detective Sergeant 38

Robin goes to California



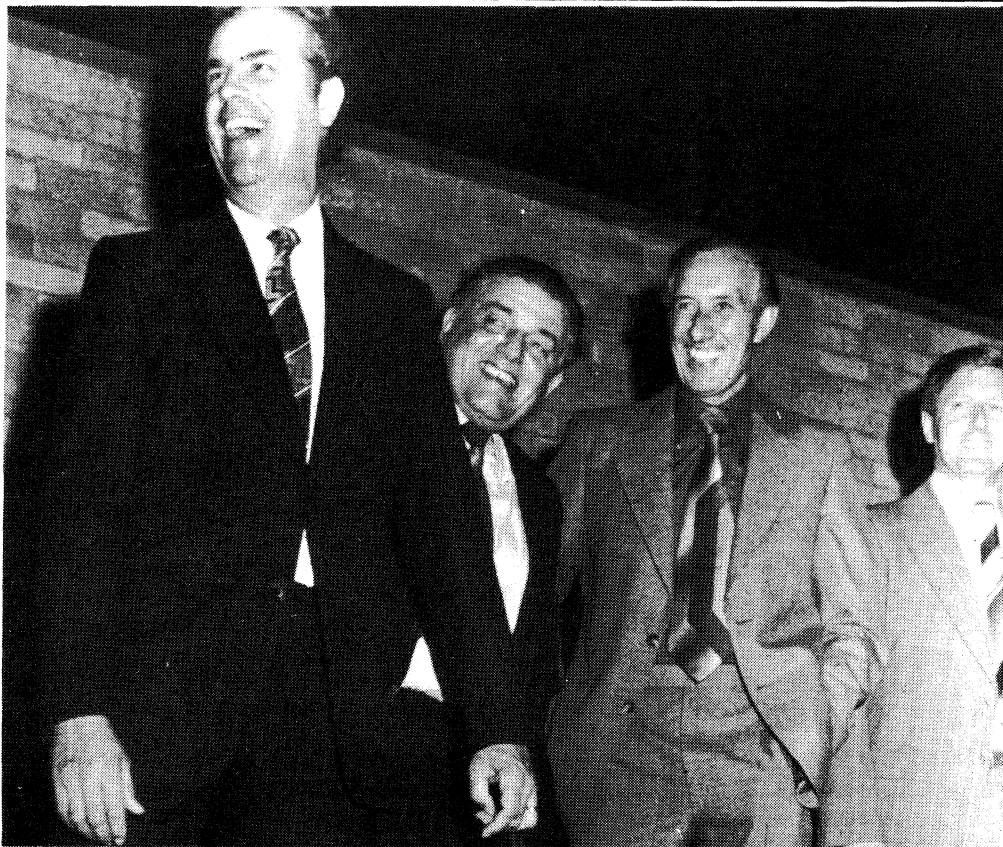
PATROLMAN Bill Key of the San Jose Police Department enjoys driving unusual cars. When he contacted the Reliant factory in this country in an attempt to purchase a 3-wheeled Robin Reliant for export to the States, he was told that it couldn't be done. Undaunted, Bill arranged a trip with his wife Kathleen and privately bought a second-hand model which he shipped back home.

Staying with P.C. Roy Bates, Laindon Traffic, and his family with whom they have corresponded for seven years, this is Mr. and Mrs. Key's third trip to Britain.

Bill owns a 1933 model Morgan 3-wheeler and was delighted with a visit to the Morgan factory in Worcestershire where all the cars are hand made. He also owns a Berdmore Taxi — the old 3-door London Taxi which presently is on display in a museum in San Jose.

He said that he intends to use the Robin Reliant in the States "just to show it off".

School 'at home' to former colleagues



A JOKE SHARED by these denizens of the skid pan, from left, Ch. Insp. Terry Roberts currently in charge, Wally Hammond, John Waylett and Insp. Bill Pirie School 2 l.c.



MRS YALLOP talks to Ch. Supt. Ken Baker now of Suffolk Police, right, and ex-Insp. Charlie Lennard, formerly in charge of the H.Q. garage.



SMOOTHLY round the skid pan comes former School head, Ron Priestley, accompanied by his wife.

A UNIQUE Driving School occasion took place last month when the present staff were, for the first time ever, at home to former instructors.

It was one of those do-you-remember occasions when the casual listener, catching only snatches of conversation might conclude that in former times driving school cars drove at breakneck speed from crash to breakdown. No doubt 20 years from now the present staff will be telling similar stories, advancing the speeds, reducing the braking distances and narrowing the gaps — just like those who went before.

Mecca

Of course the Mecca for the evening was the skid pan where anyone who fancied his chances could have a slide. Former school boss, Ron Priestley smoothed his way round, skidding all the way it seemed though another colleague — nameless to save his shame — was less lucky, hitting the bank with a resounding thud which stalled the engine and, no doubt, stopped his verbal flow.

Senior Officers, Chief, Deputy, and A.C.C.(O), attended, the Chief opening the proceedings. Later Mr. Priestley responded, thanking the force for the invitation.

Refreshments had been arranged by Insp. Pirie's wife, Lesley, and the guests showed their appreciation by clearing the tables. Verdict by all present: a lovely evening and an idea worth repeating — though not so often that it should lose its appeal.



MRS Lesley Pirie who arranged the refreshments.



FORMER assistant senior instructor Ken Watson and his wife take a nostalgic look at the skid pan.

College carried on when cadet training ended

WITH A FINAL decision on whether to start a new cadet training scheme still awaited, the course which has taken its place has begun its third year. This is the Police Vocational College at Chelmsford College of Further Education.

It was to this establishment that cadets went from the inception of educational training for cadets back in the 1960s long before residential training. Then, cadets would travel up to Chelmsford on two days each week to attend classes. In a way the clock has been put back because this is precisely what the Vocational students do, some of them quite long distances — and in their own time.



AT STANWAY Traffic Garage, Sgt. Stew Mather gives Police Vocational students the low down on some of the vehicles in the yard and their reason for being there.

October's recruits

THESE recruits, just back from Training School, were already in the force before the recent pay-induced recruiting surge began. Future courses could be larger as there are well over 100 men and women 'in the pipeline' and additional selection boards are being arranged.

Several smaller stations



benefit from extra strength from this class. They are, front from left: G. Brown, stationed at Coringham, formerly a student; C. Houlding (Maldon) lab assistant; C. Day (Clacton) post office; H. Ross (Harlow) student; J. Barber (Benfleet) student; A. Adkins (Braintree) student; A. Clemesha (Leigh) civil servant; A. Woulds (Wickford) bank clerk.

Middle row from left: N. Matthews (Tilbury) student; J. Cuthbert (Ockendon) water engineer; N.

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Cup contest ends in smiles

THE ANNUAL competition for the Bennett Trophy took place at H.Q. on 23rd October. The event is contested by Constables who have completed their continuation course and are therefore in the final months of their probation.

After a written examination containing questions on general police duties, first-aid and home defence has been marked, the top ten are selected to be quizzed orally by the A.C.C. after lunch. Even here the system is strict with everyone getting the same questions and a Training Sergeant ticking off marks as points of the answer are made.

Traditionally the morning finishing order bears little resemblance to the final positions as some do much better at one than the other. This year's top ten finished the written paper grouped between 72 and 64 marks with the eventual winner



THIS IS NOT a caption contest but the Chief Constable presenting the Bennett Trophy winner, Constable David Bates of Colchester, with his commemorative baton, accompanied by remarks which those present found humorous. BELOW, the top ten in the competition, who qualified for the oral quiz, are seen after the final parade: from left, Constables Hand, Meggison, Ford, Mason, Brown, Wellham, Went (rear), Smith, Johnson and Bates the winner.



only 8th. The afternoon session was a different matter and David Bates scored 11 marks more than anyone else to take the trophy. Grays' Steve Wellham placed 2nd and

Adrian Went, Harlow, 3rd. Five divisions shared the top ten constables between them, two each, but two divisions had no entrants at all. Of course, entry is voluntary. It was a pity that

a few had to be spoken to by the Chief about long hair.

The Chief spoke about the importance to a police career of examination contests such as this, and the possibility that future Chief Officers

might be listening to him, and drew attention to Supt. J. Sutton, Force Training Officer and responsible for this year's contest, who was himself the first ever winner of the Bennett Trophy.

who joined up last year.

last year was little better than last year, still only nine, better in results as all of them have either returned for further study or joined the force, either as police or

at the 1978 course has been taken off with 26 members, only two of whom

van (Ockendon) student; C. Courtney (off) clerk; A. Watkins (ester) student; I. berg (Walden) B. White (Basildon) Police.

from left: D. Bennett (on) Royal Parks (on); R. Carpenter (ood) Royal Hong (Police); A. Allington (student); M. Heard (machinist); R. Clark (ad) student; D. Cahill (n) customs officer; H. (rd) (Maldon) Fire

are left-overs from last year. Most are aged 16 and have a problem of filling the 12 months gap between the end of their College course and the age of 18½ when they can join the Force.

So the Force has stepped in and added weight to the course by offering jobs as civilians to students — but they must pass the course.

The man running the College end of the course is Roger Jordan, well known to all former cadets as the man in charge of cadet education throughout the residential cadet era. So he is in no doubt about what the force requires from its trainees.

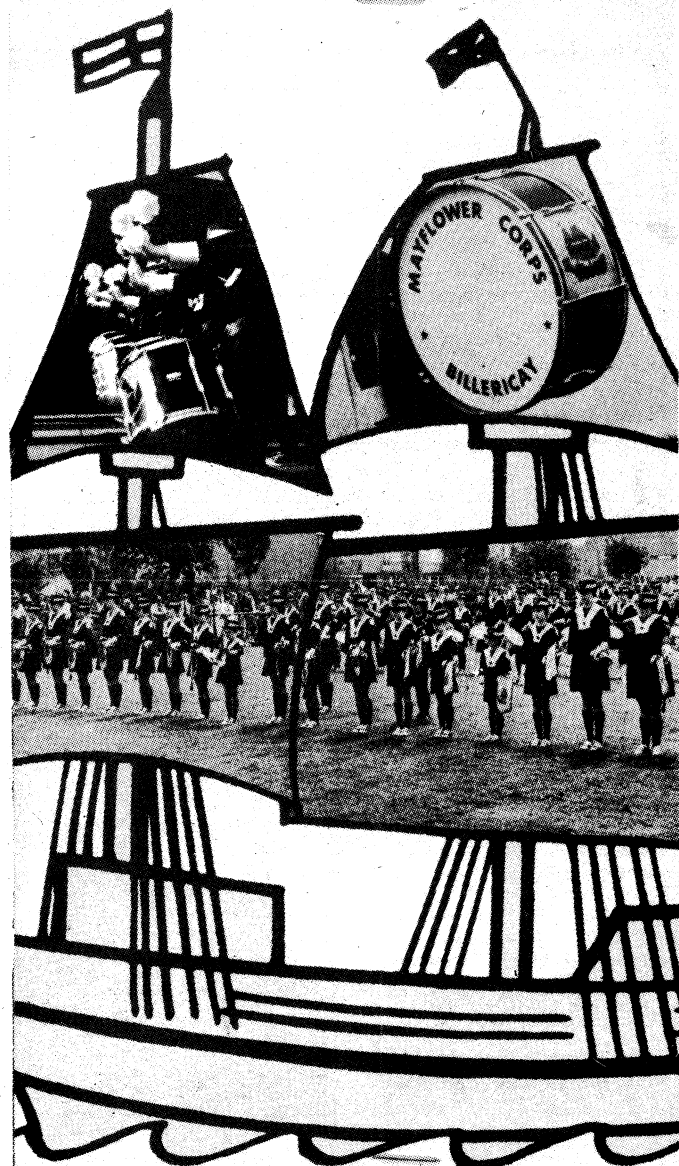
Sgt. Terry Fisher attends to the Police Studies programme under which the students receive lectures and visit police buildings and departments. They also undergo adventure training pursuits at the hands of H.Q. PTL, Nick Banks. Social service attachments



to hospitals are arranged by the College who also pass the trainees through first aid and life saving training. In fact the whole course has been designed to follow as closely as possible the programme of training undergone by residential cadets in the past. Some of these vocational

students travel daily to Chelmsford from Benfleet or Rochford, none of them get any wages or grants. No-one can doubt their keenness to become police officers: they are furthering their ambition to join despite obstacles, rather than having everything laid on a plate as cadets did before.

Follow the Band



LAST SATURDAY a Lord Mayor's Show to member of Essex Police marched in the Lord Mayor's Show. He wasn't in uniform, at least not his police gear but was stationed at the rear of the Mayflower Corps, the Billericay all girls marching and display band. This was Constable Gordon Hunnab, Coroners Officer.

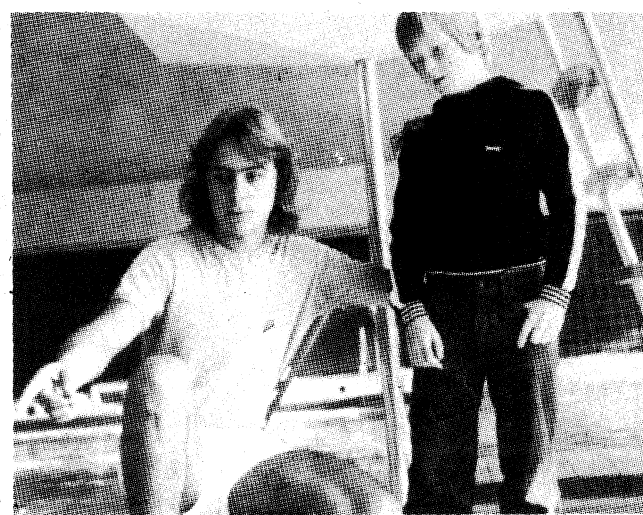
It all began in 1973 when the band was formed. At first there were 24 members who had to struggle hard to raise funds for uniforms and equipment: now membership stands at 130, and there are 'A' and 'B' bands.

The 'A' band plays at the highest level of youth band contests and is the best all girls outfit in the country. At the Royal Albert Hall last February, after the National Youth Band Championships, they were chosen by the Pageantmaster of the

Having a daughter in the Corps, Gordon Hunnab soon got roped in to do a job and for the last two years has been publicity officer. And this year he has been made assistant to the 'B' Bandmaster. "It is in this roll that I will be marching with other Band officers in the Lord Mayor's Show," says Gordon.

After this top engagement, another of a more competitive nature when the Mayflower Corps will compete at Wembley in the British Youth Band Championships on November 25th.

"Who says the youth of today are all bad?" asks Gordon Hunnab, and there's no answer to that.



SEAN DAVIDSON, 19-year-old former cadet and son of JBB Chairman, Ted Davidson, pictured with the lad whose life he saved at Chelmsford Pool recently.

When the lad, 10-year-old Michael Gale, was seen lying at the bottom of the pool, Sean dived in pulled him out and began mouth-to-mouth resuscitation until oxygen could be administered, with a Minuteman resuscitator.

Later Michael's parents were told that he might not live and spent several terrible hours before learning that he would recover.

Sean Davidson was a cadet for two years before resigning to spend 3 months hitchhiking round the USA. Since returning he has worked as a beach lifeguard as well as attendant at the Chelmsford Pool.

Now you can double your Lottery chances



SEEN before their narrow defeat 13-12 by Norfolk in the PAA rugby competition, the Force team in their new black-red strip.

Injury stops Pat

A BACK injury sustained just before the final fight, certainly didn't help Leigh policewoman Pat Foster's efforts to remain the National P.A.A. Ladies Judo Champion, at a competition held in the City of London on 25th August.

At the end of the final fight against Woman Sergeant Petherly Smith of Cumbria, both women had five points and the Championship depended on the referee's decision which went against Pat who was awarded second place.

Now fully recovered, Pat

Clacton's Croker Cup

BY the narrowest of margins, a mere half point, Clacton have won this year's Croker Cup competition. The cup is awarded to the Division who do best in a year-long contest covering 13 different sports and games.

In each competition, some are played on a knock-out basis and others are one-day events, the winning team gets 2 points and the runners-up, one.

is in training once more and looking forward to next year and a chance to win back that title.

Despite this year's contest being unfinished, because the cricket final was overtaken by the winter season, Clacton have gathered just enough points for the cricket finalists to be unable to catch up.

Victories at bowls and tug-o-war, final defeats at rifle shooting and tennis, and a tie in the swimming gala, gave Clacton $7\frac{1}{2}$ points with Chelmsford just a half point behind and Basildon 3rd by

the same margin.

A close contest which could yet be closer because if Southend win the cricket next May they will place equal 2nd although by then the 1979 contest will be well on the way.

Points table: 1st Clacton, $7\frac{1}{2}$; 2nd Chelmsford, 7; 3rd Basildon, $6\frac{1}{2}$; 4th Grays, 6; 5th Southend, 5; 6th Colchester, 3; 7th Harlow, 1; Rayleigh and Headquarters, 0.

Ryan's super walk

LIKE a dog with two tails was the only way to describe race walker Peter Ryan when he got back to Essex from Austria where he had been taking part in the national 50kms championship. Because having spent most of 1978 trying vainly to break through the $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours barrier for the distance, over 31 miles, Peter had smashed his way down to 4h 20m 25s in what was his career's best performance at any distance.

This is a time which only five British walkers have bettered during 1978 and one of those was in this same race when Southend-based Bob Dobson lowered the British record to 4hr 8 mins.

"Weather conditions were perfect," Ryan told The Law. He also contested this race last year when heat ruled out any records.

Obviously this takes pride of place among walking performances this month during which, with the start of the winter season, the section has got going again.

As a result of the Woodford 7 miles, Denis Sheppard advanced to

2nd place in the Essex League table while John Hedgethorpe also moved one place but in the opposite direction, now standing at 7th.

A regular part of the winter scene are the yacht handicap fun races (almost) at Blackheath Park, where the slowest walkers start first on a handicap basis and the fastest chase them off a deficit of up to 15 minutes on a $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles race. In theory everyone should finish together which makes the last lap exhilarating. Denis Sheppard and his wife, who also walks, have contested the two races in October and Hedgethorpe recovered from injury in time to get out on 31st October.

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WITH a target of a magical £1,000 top prize the Force lottery committee have opened up the monthly lottery draw to allow members to hold eight chances per draw instead of four.

Currently, the first prize is about £640. "And getting it up that high has meant a lot of hard work getting new members," Basildon's Sgt. John Tysoe told The Law.

"A lot of members have asked about extra shares and this new number will make an immediate increase in the first prize," he added. But there are still far too many members not taking part.

"I recently wrote to Harlow sending a list of non-members," says John, "and the result was about 60 new subscriptions."

Four lottery chances in each draw only costs £1 per month and as the County Treasurer's computer deducts the money you never see it — and so never miss it.

Even the new eight-share holding will cost only 50p per week — and it could put your name on the top of that monthly teleprinter message with a four-figure sum beside it.

Where does the money go? The first prize is always 40% of the cash in the kitty. For that to be £1,000, $2\frac{1}{2}$ times this sum, £2,500, must have been staked.

In fact 80% of total stakes goes back as prizes, leaving 20% for the Force Sports Association. So a monthly top prize of £1,000 will mean a total annual stake of £30,000 and benefit to Force Sport of £6,000.

But it has to be borne in mind that the various sections, football, cricket and the like — there are more than 20 — wanted to spend almost £5,500 last year. By next year their demands could be £7,000 — more than the lottery could raise even if enough people joined to put the first prize up to that magic figure of £1,000.

And that is the crux of the matter: if enough people joined.

For the prize to be £1,000, ten thousand five-bob tickets must go into the kitty every month. In other words, 2,500

Set and match to Chelmsford

THE Inter-Divisional Lawn Tennis Tournament took place at Frinton Lawn Tennis Club on Wednesday, 27 September 1978. A number of factors resulted in the poorest attendance for several seasons with only players from Clacton, Chelmsford and Grays taking part.

The first event was the men's singles defended successfully by the holder P.C. Len Jarman from Chelmsford. He reached the final by beating Ch. Insp. Brian Miller from Corringham a former holder, P.C. Kevin Street from Tilbury, and P.S. Dennis Murfitt from Mistley. In the final he played P.S. John Catton from Walton who had defeated P.S. Stuart Bowman from Tilbury, P.C. Steve Caley also from Tilbury and P.S. John Virgo from Chelmsford, and won by 6-4, 6-2.

The second event was the men's doubles, the Stockwell Cup. The reduced entry resulted in a field of only four pairs, one from Chelmsford, John Virgo and Len Jarman, one from Clacton, John Catton and Dennis Murfitt, and two from Grays, Kevin Street and Steve Caley, and Brian Miller and Stuart Bowman.

The draw brought together in the first semi-final the holders, Miller and Bowman from Grays and former holders Catton and Murfitt

STOP PRESS

DUE to complaints that they "didn't know" from various people who ought to read Circulars, John Tysoe has decided to process all applications for inclusion in the MARCH lottery. So no one will get in ahead of the rest. But your application must be with John before Christmas.

people with four tickets each.

Now the strength of the Force is 2,401 police and 855 civilians. So there are a few about who haven't got their four shares yet. It's probably a matter of communication.

Says John Tysoe: "When the result of the monthly draw goes out by TPM I get people ring up and ask, 'What's this lottery?'"

The Force lottery provides a painless method of having a flutter and at the same time financing Force sports.

Further details may be had from Sgt. Tysoe, Basildon Collator, ext 230, or the Force Sports Office, HQ ext 374-5.

K.O. for boxers

AFTER only a year or so the Essex Police boxing section has been knocked out. It comes down to a lack of support though varied duty hours are blamed.

If a section has enough support, duties have only a marginal effect. But small police clubs do suffer in this respect. Those members of the section who took up the fight game are joining other clubs, Rayleigh Mill and Bluehouse.

A bold effort and a sad failure, especially after their successful inaugural show at Rayleigh last year.

Despite the section's demise, their discovery, Mark Lewindon is beginning to achieve success. Boxing for Rayleigh Mill BC, Mark, stationed at Brentwood, fought at Acton ABC dinner show on 16th October, winning by a KO in the 3rd.

And Colchester ABC heavyweight Gordon Charlesworth is currently undergoing police training at Eynsham. Essex could make an impact at this year's Police Championships.

Rugby

FOLLOWING their narrow defeat (12-13) in the P.A.A. contest, the rugby team went down hardly less narrowly to Met 'J' Div. by 19-10. Bearing in mind their manpower problems — several players were borrowed from courses at the training school, though not all of these were novices — they played well.

Not so at Bedford last Wednesday, 8th, when the home force built up a full head of steam to see Essex off convincingly by 26-3.

Swimming

FORCE swimmers who contested events at the City of London Gala held at the Shell Centre on 3rd November seemed to lack fitness.

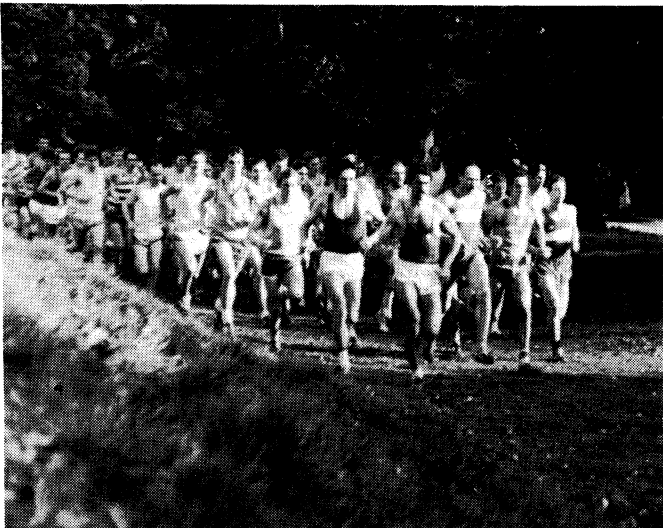
But breaststrokes Julie Packer, winner of this year's long distance swim, and Alan King from Harwich, both won places in the finals of their events.

emerged as winners 6-5, 6-5.

In the second semi-final Virgo and Jarman from Chelmsford played Street and Caley from Grays. Chelmsford won 6-1, 6-4.

In the final Chelmsford won the cup with a 6-4, 6-4 win over

Runners 4th at Ampthill



The field of over 80 gets the first race of the League season started at Ampthill.

THE season's cross country league campaign opened on the undulating terrain of Ampthill Park, Bedfordshire, on 25th October.

Essex did no more than stay in touch, having the bare scoring six in the men's race but no-one at all in the women's. Never mind, the rules allow for one race to be discarded when calculating the season's total so all is not lost.

In a big field, swelled by a couple of reconstituted cadet units taking the opportunity to exercise their members, Essex colours were submerged in the first lap scramble. But as the field settled down Andy Hayman and captain, Andy Down, began to make progress.

Both were able to gain a little on the 2nd lap, though they insisted they were not at their best, Hayman finishing 8th and Down 11th. These could turn out to be good positions in what appears to be a very strong league this year with

wincing their way into single figures.

A reasonable score was ensured by middle men Steve Pearmain and Barry Daymond who went along together before the former eased away by a little to gain 23rd place to Daymond's 26th.

Having arrived back from France in the early hours of the morning Martin Atkinson did well to finish next in 35th place. He was said to be sweating pure Beaujolais although this ought to have had an anaesthetic effect. Ever-present Mervyn Fairweather closed the scoring in 54th place, commencing his umpteenth league season.

A needle sharp contest between Thames Valley and Surrey left them in this order with just 3 points between, 279 to 276. Herts, who had the individual winner in Dick Bridgeman, were 3rd with 229, just 20 ahead of 4th placing Essex.

The next league event will be in the mud of Walton on Thames on

Hockey

THIS SEASON'S wave of enthusiasm shown by players in the Essex Police ladies hockey team, received a set back on 11th October when they were eliminated from the Regional P.A.A. Championships.

Defeated by 5 goals to nil, Essex had two goals disallowed in the first half and despite a creditable team performance, were unable to come to terms with a very strong Leicestershire Police side.

With an eye on next year's Championships, team Captain Teresa Sewell is organising friendly matches against local teams and regular training sessions.

Any person who is interested in playing hockey will be welcome to turn up at the practise sessions advertised on Force Sports Circulars, or contact W.P.C. Sewell at Basildon or W.P.C. Kay Hewitt

Overtime scheme ends.

ALWAYS more popular as a source of cash than as a form of duty, the system of voluntary overtime to perform 4 hours foot patrol in town centre areas is to end from 1st January.

This follows an examination of overtime trends by the Chief Constable. A.C.C. (A), Mr. H. Taylor, told The Law, "This will not stop a divisional commander, who has a particular problem in a part of his area, putting out extra patrols. But these will no longer be on a more or less permanent basis."

POSITIVELY OUR LAST ANNOUNCEMENT

BRAIN of Essex Police Competition, a sort of quiz, will take place at H.Q. at 7 p.m. on Monday, December 18.

Promoter Ted Davidson, for some reason, requires 13 contestants and hopes that various divisions, departments, and organisations will each provide one.

It's all for charity, there will be a bar, raffles and other devious methods of raising cash will be employed. Ted reckons it will be a good evening, hilarious even. So don't miss out, get your ticket now.

First Aid teams reach final

IN THE Ipswich open first aid contest, Essex Police men's and women's teams both won their "lanes" or pool contests to decide the finalists.

But despite having 2 out of 3 finalists, Essex had to be content with 2nd and 3rd places, behind the Cliff Quay Police Station team.

In 2nd place were the Essex policewomen's team, ahead of the men.

Soccer squad beat leaders

AFTER losing to Herts 2-0 in the National Police Cup midweek, the Force team came straight back on Saturday and beat Olympian League leaders, Rayleigh by 3-2.

By recent standards the performance against Herts was very poor, the team did not begin to play until the final 20 minutes and it was too late. Hertfordshire, a much improved side, deservedly held onto a two-goal advantage to progress to the next round.

The last six Saturday matches have resulted in four league victories and two Cup victories, the

Force having scored 14 goals and conceded 4.

The Cup victories were both away from home and were convincing results. Against Ardleigh Green in the Essex Intermediate Cup the Force scored 3 without reply and at Ongar in the Olympian League Cup Police won 4-0.

The Force Team are now placed

second in the League just two points behind the leaders Rayleigh Town. This position was consolidated by winning all four league matches in October, the best of these certainly being the 3-2 victory over Rayleigh Town who until that game had not been beaten and averaged four goals per game.

There is no doubt where the majority of the goals are coming from with Paul Gamman already totalling 17, of which 11 have been scored in ten league matches. The other goals have been shared by a number of players, but without doubt the most pleasing factor is the much improved team spirit which has been shown both on and off the field, the team could not be successful without the efforts of all the players.

The one disappointment for this year's manager is the fact that the squad consists of only fourteen players, thus creating problems if there are injuries. A sign of the times is the behaviour of some players who cannot be promised a regular place or expect to play at their convenience. We have a successful and happy squad but it is too small. So, if you think you are good enough come along or contact one of the players, but do not expect an immediate place in the side.

Seaxes

OUR rallying season could be one of the best yet.

The Autumn Leaves rally was held on October 24, organised by John Hart and Brian Jaggs. It proved to be a very competitive event. During the rally, over about 65 miles, 3 cars were forced out with vehicle defects. It was certainly very gratifying to see some new competitors in this event.

Results: 1st overall, Pete Johnson and Nick Bird. 1st expert, Dave Ricketts and Mick Bliss. 1st novice, Road Leake and Ian Weatherley. 2nd novice, Ray Gravestock and Tab Hunter.

Herts Police M.C. were hosts for the Production Car trials held at Tring on October 29. Seaxes entered 5 crews who suffered very mixed fortunes with only Phil Knight and his wife coming into the frame.

Chelmsford Motor Club held their Production Car Trials at Mill Hill, Woodham Ferrers on Sunday November 5. Seaxes entered six teams in this event, which consisted of 6 courses marked out on the side of the hill, incorporating climbs, sharp turns and very steep down gradients. Again Phil Knight was to the fore, coming 2nd overall, but all who carried the Seaxes banner did well, and came fairly high up the field.

The November Trophy rally takes

in spite of a press release put out by the Chief Constable have continued to repeat the 'defamation, without comment on the press release. A report has been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions, and certain allegations have been made which must inevitably be investigated. Once this has been done and the matter is no longer 'sub judice', I will be seeking advice from the Federation Solicitors, regarding the newspaper reports, both as far as they affect an individual (who has been named by another newspaper) and certain unnamed officers engaged on anti-vandal patrols at Basildon.

Federation Diary

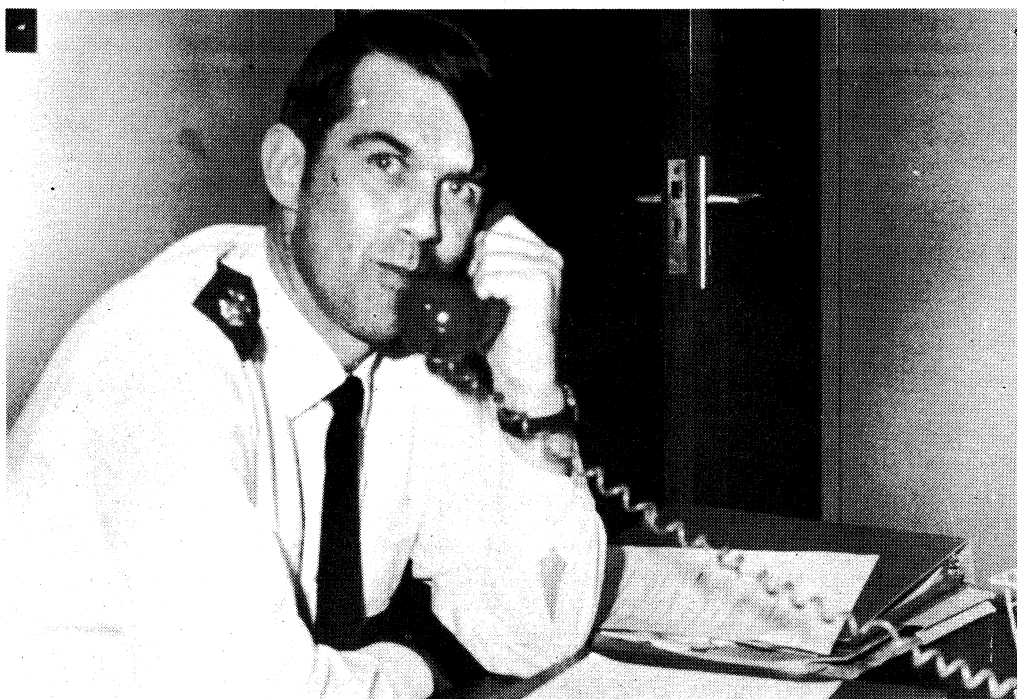
The diary is now with divisional representatives for sale, price 15 pence, the proceeds go to the orphans via the Force Benevolent Fund. Please note



WITH his family at County Hall after being invested with the insignia of the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct is Sgt. Bob Williamson. The award came after an armed robbery at Orsett in February 1977. Bob was in a dog van with a colleague and stopped the robbers' car. He approached them but they drove at him striking him a glancing blow. After a high-speed chase the vehicle was cornered on Shenfield Common where a violent fight took place.

Despite his earlier knock and a fractured cheekbone incurred at Shenfield, Bob Williamson hung on to his prisoner until assistance came. After handing his man over to other officers he assisted in the search for the other two who were later arrested. In the boot of the getaway car were loaded, sawn-off shotguns.

Two leaving Essex on promotion



PLUM JOB for Inspector Ian Munro who leaves headquarters Training School shortly to take up the appointment of Chief Instructor at the National Police Computer Training School, Hendon. And this means promotion to Temp. Chief Inspector.

AND for Sgt. Bob Jackman and Jase a move to Cheshire and promotion to Inspector on the Dog Section there. Seven-year-old Jase, near the end of his working life will be transferring too. Picture by Essex Chronicle.

place on Friday November 17, starting as usual from the Driving School, but at earlier time of 7 p.m. Any entries and offers of marshalls to Tony Campen at the garage as soon as possible.

The Sleigh Ride rally will take place on Friday December 15. Details are still being finalised, so contact Derek Arber for further information.

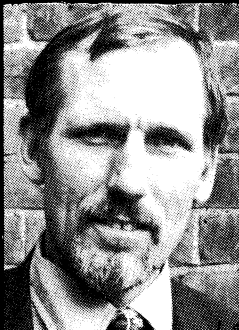
Very soon now posters will be going up to advertise the opening of the new Seaxes shop. This will give us more space to display the very extensive range of parts and spares which we now stock . . . so keep your eyes open and pay us a visit. We can supply most items at a large discount.

Eastern Counties Motor Club are promoting what they term as a 'Miniature Rally' overnight on December 9-10, starting at Woodbridge, covering about 145 miles finishing at Bromeswell. Contact Tony Campen at the garage for the regulations and entry form.

Finally, our grateful thanks to Alan Collins who has recently resigned the post of Treasurer and from the committee after a number of years. The post has temporarily been taken over by Peter Fairhead.



Federation Notes



by Jim Rodgers

British Rail Pensions

I understand from Mr. Bill Austin, in Headquarters Finance, that he has processed all the applications he has received so far, and the officers will be informed of the results as soon as the information is to hand. Any officer who has not yet applied should do so without delay, the extension of time is not indefinite.

Motor Insurance Scheme

The broker for the scheme which is for approved police forces — of which Essex is one — has been in touch with me. He informs me that there will be a slight increase in premiums from 1st January 1979 for new business, and from 1st March 1979 for renewals. This has been brought about by inflation and is not based upon adverse claims experience. It is hoped that increased participation in the scheme will help to keep premiums down in the future — at present five forces are involved, and two more are showing interest.

The firm — Paul Childs Ltd. — have recently changed their telephone number to Marlow (Bucks) 6901, and the staff to contact regarding quotations or enquiries are Mrs. P. Lewis; Mrs. M. Smythe or the Motor Manager — Dave Bright. (I hasten to add that this is not OUR Dave Bright, moonlighting!)

RUC Benevolent Fund

The JBB scheme for a 5p deduction to be made from salary at source, is receiving a gratifying response. My desk is inundated with authorisation slips — the first ones to arrive being from the New Deputy, Mr. Price and A.C.C. (A), Mr. Taylor. All ranks of the Force are participating and this factor will be made clear when the cheques are sent off. This is truly a force project — and apparently a successful one.

Pewter statuettes

Are you looking for a Christmas present for one of those awkward relatives? What about a pewter statuette? We have some in stock at the stated price of £8, but new stocks which we have to purchase after Christmas will be increased in price to £9 because of a world price increase for tin. Buy now while stocks last.



IPA notes

SOUTHEND and MOD will hold a social at the Civil Service Club at Wakering on Friday November 17. Tickets from H.Q. ext 539, price 60p.

For the camping and caravanning enthusiasts I have just received news of a Rally to be held from June 17 to 25, 1979, at the Co-op Wood Camp Site, Abbey Wood, London, S.E.2.

Harlow section have just returned from a successful trip to Gummersbach in Germany.

Essex members also supported a 'K' Div dinner-dance for the Namur section at the Heybridge Country Club, and also the outing to see Tommy Cooper at the Purfleet Circus Tavern.

Commutation Tables

New commutation tables for police pensions came into effect from 1st November 1978. These tables indicate the amount which can be purchased by relinquishing each £100 of Police Pension (subject to a maximum of one quarter of the Pension) and based on the pensioner's age next birthday on retirement. The tables have been increased to take account of inflation and the better investment rates currently available, and this is the second increase in the last two years. The new tables are as follows:

AGE NEXT BIRTHDAY	Capital Sum for each £100 of Pension Commuted	
	Men £	Women £
45 and under	1425	1630
46	1425	1630
47	1425	1630
48	1420	1630
49	1415	1630
50	1410	1630
51	1400	1625
52	1385	1615
53	1365	1605
54	1340	1585
55	1310	1560
56	1275	1530
57	1240	1500
58	1205	1470
59	1170	1435
60	1135	1400
61	1100	1365
62	1065	1330
63	1030	1290
64	/	/
65	/	/
66	/	/
67	/	/
68	/	/
69	/	/
70	795	995

Newspaper Reporting

Our colleagues on Basildon Division have been defamed by items which have appeared in a national newspaper which claims to 'reflect' daily happenings, and

Serving Brother

RECOGNITION of his work in first aid over many years came recently for Constable Derrick Hughes, the Clacton Juvenile Liaison Officer, when he was made a Serving Brother of the Order of St. John.



The award, which has been sanctioned by the Queen as Sovereign Head of the Order, is in recognition of his services to the St. John Ambulance. The investiture will be held in London later this year.

This is the second time, in

recent years, that the award has come to the Clacton Police Division. The first recipient was ex-Ps Reg Whent, who is currently active as Secretary of the East Essex Centre, St. John Ambulance Association.

Derrick Hughes' association with the St. John Ambulance extends over 30 years. Since joining the Police Service in 1954 he has been involved in First Aid Training and Competitions. He holds the St. John Ambulance Lay Instructor's Certificate and is a County and Divisional Training Officer in First Aid.

He is the founder Chairman of the East Essex Centre of the St. John Ambulance Association which is responsible for overall training and teaching of First Aid and allied subjects to members of the St. John Ambulance and the public at large.

CONFERENCE ON FEDERATION STRUCTURE

AT CENTRAL HALL, Westminster, on September 15th, the special one-day conference of the Police Federation rejected motions designed to bring about "free association" and opted instead for a stronger Police Federation structured on the same basis as before.

Here, Joe Martucci, J.C.C. Secretary, explains and defends these decisions.

THE Special Conference gave overwhelming support to the JCC motion for a stronger Police Federation and it decisively rejected a free association or trade union. This has not prevented a small minority of critics from accusing the JCC of 'betrayal', and so on. Every member is entitled to his opinion, but the time has now come to get on with the most important task in our history, and the best thing the critics can do is to concentrate their energies on ensuring that we achieve the kind of Federation we have suggested to Edmund Davies.

It is true that the Special Conference decision overturned the policy adopted in 1977, when Conference agreed to go for free association and the right to strike. The obvious reason for this reversal of policy was the complete change in the situation brought about by the Edmund Davies Reports on Pay and Negotiating Machinery. Whether the critics want to face facts or not, there is now no longer a majority view in the police service in favour of the right to strike. If there was such a view still, my desk would have been inundated with letters from ordinary members and there would certainly have been more than just three pro-free association amendments on the Special Conference Agenda. It was significant that there were more than a hundred amendments to the JCC proposals on a revised constitution, proof that the vast majority of Joint Branch Boards were in favour of a restructured Federation before the Special Conference.

To hear some critics talk, what happened at Central Hall was that two men, Jim Jardine and myself, conned or bullied close on a thousand colleagues into accepting something that they did not want. Let them and anyone inclined to fall for this rubbish read the Edited Proceedings which are being circulated to branch boards this month.

Then there is the other argument, that the decision we took was not democratic because all three ranks took it together. This, they say, swamped the views of the Constables. The critics appear to take it for granted that the Constables, sitting on their own, would have voted 'their' way. That's funny, because they certainly didn't vote 'their' way when they last sat on their own, at Blackpool in May. I must remind them that the Greater Manchester motion to that Constables' Conference, seeking unilateral action to secure full union status, was defeated. Whether they were voting against 'full union status' or 'unilateral action' can be argued, but if there was such an overwhelming view in the Constables' Conference as the critics seemed to think, the delegates had a strange way of showing it. Also in that Conference, the Constables voted overwhelmingly against the Emergency Motion from Nottinghamshire which urged them to withdraw from Joint Conference when differentials were debated. Twice in one morning, therefore, the Constables voted in a manner that suggests to any reasonable man that they wished to remain part of the organisation for all the Federated ranks.

I would remind the minority of dissenters that, by and large, they have done all the talking. There is such a thing as a silent majority, and it has a habit of making itself felt when a matter is put to the vote.

The decision of the Special Conference was not only the right decision, it was the only one we could take. For two years we have stood in front of a signpost with two arms, one marked 'Trade Union' and the other marked 'New Federation'. For a long time, I and every other member of the JCC, as well as the great mass of the Federation was prepared to follow the trade union road. Not because we wanted to, but because it looked as if we had no other choice. That's why we voted this way in 1977 — months before Merlyn Rees gave in and let Edmund Davies conduct the independent pay inquiry we had demanded from the start — at a time when all we were being told was 'Get back to the Police Council and settle for the next instalment of Government incomes policy'. We would have gone down the trade union road if we had been forced to, but we did not want to. All we ever wanted was authority to recognise that if policemen were unique, they were unique in everything, including the way they were paid.

And that is what Edmund Davies has said. He says: 'The police can never have the right to strike, but they must be dealt with on pay in such a way that they will never need to strike'. We have explained before that the actual pay award has done more than restore Willink, but the most important part of all is the system which Edmund Davies has chosen for making sure that police pay, once set, keeps its value come what may. We can sit back now and watch the trade unions battle with the Government over five per cent or whatever they can get, knowing that the more they get, the more will be due to us next September. It looks like being a bitter battle, with trade unions fighting each other for a slice of the wage cake. As Sid Weighell of the NUR has called it, 'The philosophy of the pig trough, with the most going to those with the biggest snouts'. Don't let us kid ourselves, we haven't got the snouts to get anywhere near that trough on our own. Edmund Davies has said 'No right to strike'. The Government has said it, and in accepting Edmund Davies, we have said it. So what would the critics have us do? Reject Edmund Davies, tell him and the Government to keep their annual index linked reviews of police pay, and say we prefer to take our chances along with the Civil Service Unions, NALGO, the fire brigades and the refuse collectors? Be part of the public sector and get the worst of all worlds under Government incomes policy? Because that's the only alternative. We would start off as a trade union without the right to strike, and we'd be on our own because we threw out TUC affiliation the same

ROD and BEN—CHAMPIONS



DOG TRIALS came round again last month and the Force Dog Section undertook four days of frantic work to decide which four dogs would go forward to the Regional Trials in the Spring.

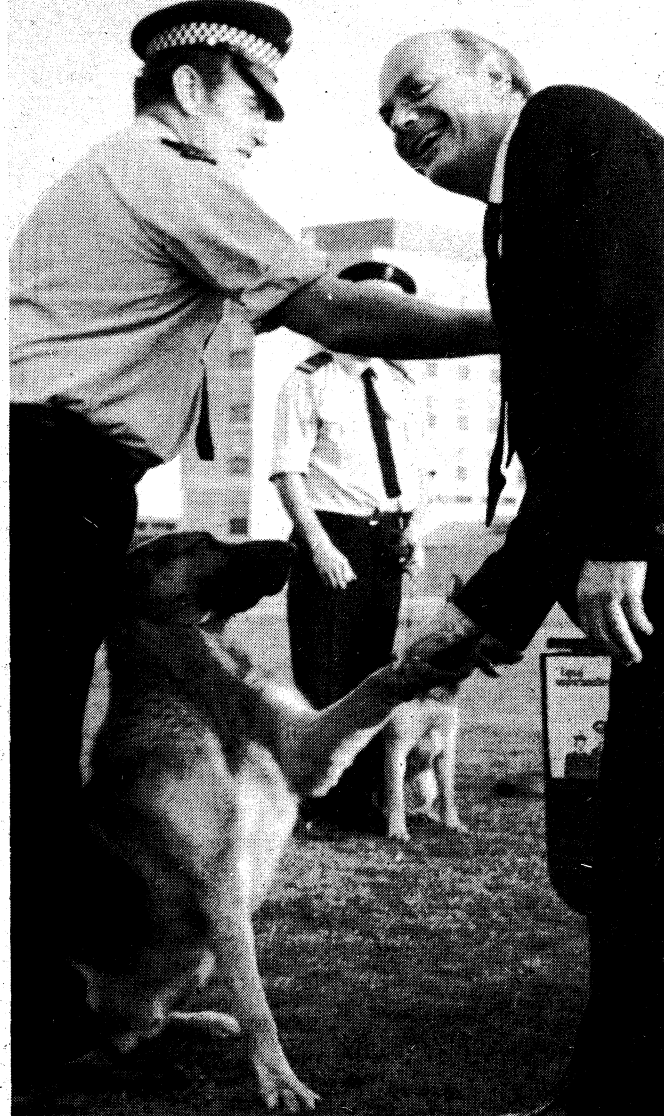
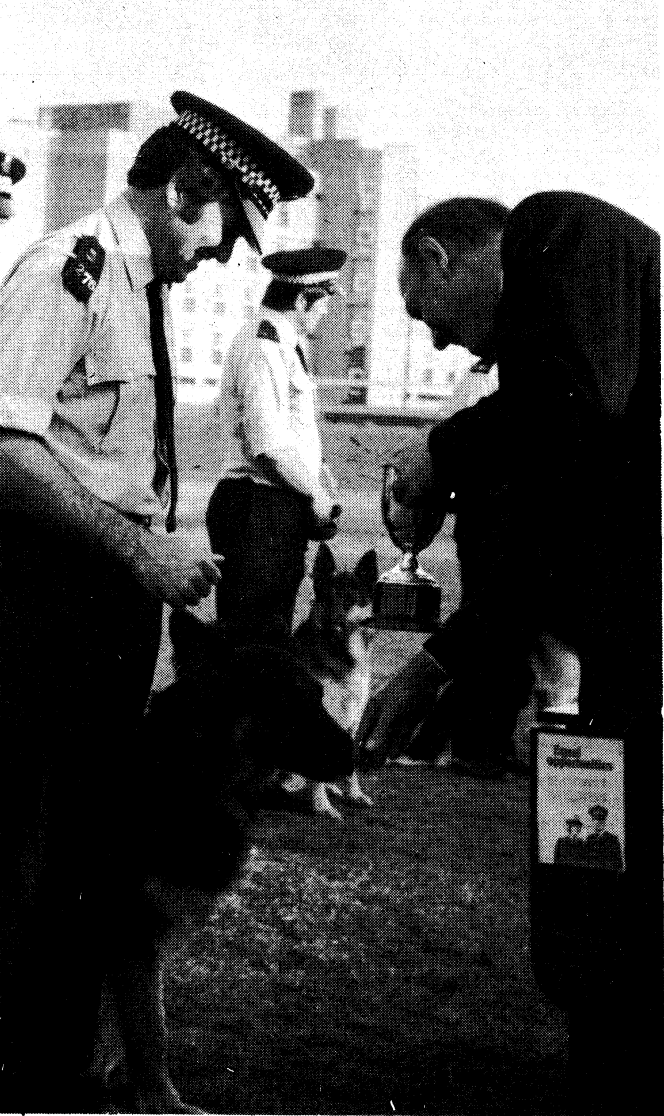
After three days of tracking, both on soft and hard surfaces, searching and generally sniffing round the Essex countryside at Sandon, Debden and Shoebury, all competitors came together on the Headquarters sports field for the obedience and man work.

There can be no doubt that the man work is the part the dogs enjoy. To see the exuberance with which they seize the unfortunate individual deputed to repeatedly run away across the field, only to be inevitably run down and grabbed

by the arm, leaves one wishing that every member of the Force could enjoy his work as much.

Afterwards the Chief came along to present the awards and immediately offered his hand for a nip from Ben, who with his handler Constable Rod Barrett had gained top marks. The Chief got away with that so went one better with runner-up Oscar — Constable Len Terry — shaking him by the paw. His acceptance into Essex Police must now be complete because he got away with this also although Oscar looked a little taken aback (below right).

Pictured above are the first four who will go forward to the Regional Trials: Rod Barrett and Ben, 1st; Len Terry and Oscar, 2nd; Colin Ball and Sergeant, 3rd; and Len Breewood and Shep, 4th.



afternoon that we voted for free association last year. Then, finding we were getting nowhere without the right to strike, what would we do? I'll tell you what I told the Special Conference — we'd have to take the right to strike, and that means striking. I don't know of any central committee member, any responsible branch board member, who wants to have that on his conscience. And I'll say this, also. Whatever they say at the TUC or the Labour Party Conference, Geoffrey Drain of NALGO, Alan Fisher of NUPE, and Terry Parry of the Fire Brigades Union, would give their right arms to get for their members the kind of deal that we got for you, and to hell with the right to strike.

At Central Hall we challenged those who still, in spite of Edmund Davies, want a free association. We asked them what they could get for the ordinary policeman that we could not get with a stronger Police Federation. And answer came there none. Because free association has become an empty slogan, with its supporters reduced to talking about 'freedom', 'higher principles', and appeals to think of the youngsters to come. I don't want any man to join the police service in the future and find he has to go on strike to secure a decent wage.

Of course I know that we have had good results from previous independent inquiries, only to be let down in the long term. But we have never had the kind of arrangement for the future that Edmund Davies has given us, backed by pledges from both the present Government and the Opposition. If, in spite of everything, a future Government is so stupid as to wreck that understanding and betray the police once more, then we have said that we will have to turn once again to free association with all that is implied.

But this apart, we have the chance now to build a new Federation. A Federation which at national and local level can enjoy full partnership with authority, going to the negotiating table with chief officers instead of having to knock on the door. Concentrating on the things that really matter to policemen.

That's the task facing us. It's now the plain duty of every elected representative of the Police Federation to support the decision taken by the Special Conference and back the restructured Federation. To do anything less is to let down the members, who are not interested in histrionics or internal wrangles in the Federation. They expect us all to get on with the job, or get out.

The Law

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