



THE LAW

February 1979

No. 112



The Newspaper of the Essex Police



THE most notorious traffic bottle-neck in Essex, the Army and Navy Roundabout at Chelmsford has been drastically improved.

The week before Christmas, a new flyover came into operation which stretches from the A130 Southend Road, across the A12, and into Parkway.

It is only wide enough for a single line of traffic, but in the morning, traffic flows from the A130 into Chelmsford, and in the evening, the situation is reversed with the heavy traffic out of the town passing over the flyover onto the A130.

Superintendent Ferguson, Chelmsford Town said the system has been most successful in easing congestion. Traffic Wardens no longer have to man the junctions and this is a commitment they are very pleased to lose.

At the moment, traffic signs have to be changed manually morning and evening, but within three or four months, the system will be directed from the control room at Headquarters, with television cameras to monitor the flow of traffic and electronic signals.

Mr. Jack Francis, at present in charge of Chelmsford's Traffic Wardens said that for ten years the wardens have been on duty at the Army and Navy Roundabout for two hours twice a day. "The motorists are pleased with the new system and so are we," he said. "Now they can swear at the flyover instead of the traffic wardens."

New promotion policy

FOR THE FIRST time in several years standing orders governing promotion arrangements have been amended. For the candidate the new system introduces another hurdle and something of a gamble.

Because the promotion advisory boards will from now on award fifty per cent more "golden tickets" than there are foreseeable vacancies.

Put the other way round, one-third of the lucky ones will not have been promoted at the end of the year — and all vacancies will have been filled.

For headquarters the system will afford greater flexibility to combat what is becoming a real problem, house ownership. With more successful candidates available, the chances are greater of having someone in the right place at the right time.

Immediate beneficiaries of the new system were thirteen constables who received additional "tickets," having originally been "not recommended" last August. Indeed, one was quick enough off the mark to have his application in for a vacancy

Promotion Board recommend a 50% surplus

within 24 hours of the glad tidings going out from H.Q. by teleprinter — a new departure to combat leaks.

These 13 are the additional 50 per cent newly recommended to comply with the fresh promotion policy.

The same principle has applied to the list of sergeants recommended for elevation to inspector. There are 39 of these, two are women, from which one

can calculate foreseeable vacancies numbering 26.

Vacancies

Some homework has been done by Personnel Dept. at HQ on the question of how many vacancies. Divisions were consulted, particularly in view of the unprecedented

pay averaging arrangements coming into force this September which may encourage a large number to retire.

Apparently the retirements of ranking officers will not be as numerous as suggested in some quarters but even if there were far more than expected, the additional 50 per cent of recommendations for

promotion would cover the situation.

Golden tickets now last two years. If at the end of this time promotion has not come, the candidate must go back before the PAB and re-qualify.

By doubling the life of a golden ticket the new system will cut down the number of interviews since there will always be the additional 50 per cent — whatever number this may be — in suspended animation awaiting their dream vacancy.

Mrs Jones' award



MRS. JOYCIE JONES who retired in August last year after working for almost thirty-five years with Essex Police was awarded the M.B.E. in the New Years Honours List.

Mrs. Jones was secretary to three Chief Constables, Sir Jonathon Peel, Sir John Nightingale and latterly Mr. Robert Bunyard.

Certificates for Colchester pair



AT A recent ceremony at Colchester Town Hall, Constables Tony Welham and Gary Egerton were presented with the St. John Ambulance Association Commendation of Meritorious First Aid Awards by the Mayor of Colchester, Councillor D. Holt.

On September 17, last year, as the result of a garbled telephone message to the police station, P.c.s Welham and Egerton went to an address in Colchester where they saw a Chinese man lying on a concrete landing above some shop premises bleeding severely from his left arm. His face, body and legs were smothered in blood and he didn't appear to speak English.

He was obviously mentally deranged and had deliberately hacked his arm seven times with a chopper and was struggling and refusing attention. The officers rendered first aid, warding off his struggles and P.c. Welham applied a tourniquet using his tie.

The Chinese man was taken to hospital where he has since undergone several operations on his arm. There is no doubt that by carrying out first aid under most difficult circumstances Tony Welham and Gary Egerton helped save the man's life. Picture by courtesy of Essex County Newspapers Ltd.

A hand on the knee

MORE EFFECTIVE use could be made of gestures — the pat on the head or the knee as signs of understanding.

No, not this column's view, heaven forbid, but the opinion of a northern detective inspector on interrogation. Less chat, less of the hard stuff is advocated on the grounds that a little tenderness will get quicker results.

This just shows how far matters have slid down the slippery slope.

Far from getting a cough a hand gently placed on chummy's knee might achieve a complaint. Or if he did cough the defence would have it ruled inadmissible because he had been offered an inducement.

What about a freeze?

SCEPTICISM of pledges made by authority is this column's stock in trade. And this is as true of the promise to supplement the second instalment of the

police pay rise with an amount equal to the average wages movement during the preceding year, as of various other promises we have received over the years.

Apparently members of the Edmund Davies committee, travelling about the country, have found such scepticism widespread and have prodded the Home Office into writing to the Police Federation to reiterate that this "updating" will be paid.

Knowing as we all do that the road to ruin is paved with good intentions, that the present situation is rather fluid, and that it's a long time until September, perhaps it would be pertinent to ask what effect a wage freeze would have on this promise. Police have been caught before.

Better things to do

THERE is something of a recruiting boom at the moment though how long it may last is anyone's guess. That getting the Force up to strength does not mean as much as it should to some people is brought out by the reply received by the Recruiting Sergeant when he telephoned a divisional station to request the assistance of a policewoman at a job centre exhibition. An Inspector told him, "We have better things to do with our policewomen."

A touch of the sun

THE single shot loosed off in the last issue by the Saffron Walden Sergeant has been treated to a veritable salvo in return. The Sergeant's crime, it seems, was to criticise.

Much play is made in reply of the fact that the offending appliances were not sunglasses which would seem to be a hairsplitting exercise. So the Sergeant is guilty of using a slack term. But what of his comment that it was a case of follow my leader? Apparently there were several in the parade equipped with specs other than of plain glass. The Sergeant did concede that one at least might need tinted glasses.

It all just goes to show how times change. A glance at the picture of the Special Constabulary in 1941 reveals several pairs of spectacles all with plain glass. Can this mean that in those dark days the sun never shone? We doubt it.

Passing the buck

HAVE YOU noticed how politicians have begun to ease off the blame for the current strike situation — which this column places squarely on their shoulders, of course — onto the Police.

Having passed legislation over the years which has led pickets to think they are above the law, Ministers now begin to hint that perhaps so-called secondary picketing may not be entirely legal and suggest that anyone threatened or intimidated by pickets should report matters to the Police.

And this will enable them later to suggest that the Police have failed to act where "clear" breaches of the law occurred. Now don't all rush about smacking strikers with your sticks, but don't say we weren't warned, either.

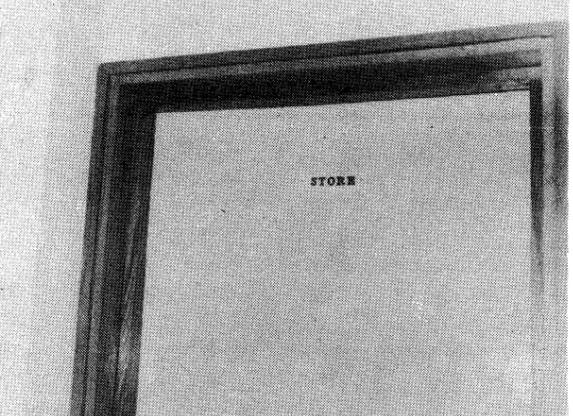
And did you notice, too, that at a time when control of the country is in danger of passing from Government to the strike committee, Parliament in its wisdom rolled out the old compulsory seat belts nonsense again?

INTO ORBIT

THE EXTENSION to headquarters has opened — or has it. Certain parts of the building still have a deserted air, particularly the control room, though the bar was ceremonially opened last Friday with the Chief pulling the first pint.



But try as you might walking round outside you won't get in. Entry can only be gained by going to an out of the way corridor in the older part of headquarters, to a door marked "store."



But when the door is opened, to misuse the nursery rhyme, the cupboard is far from bare. Indeed not a store but a whole new building opens up before you.

Strange to enter such a building through the back of a cupboard, almost like Doctor Who and his Tardis. Must be some sort of security stunt.



to the Editor

Idea not new

Dear Sir, — I read with interest your article and photograph of the Witham intake, in the December 18th issue of 'The Law'. This type of celebration may be the first to come to your notice and now that it has been published, I would like to acquaint you with details of our intake.

Twenty of us joined the old Southend Borough Force on May 26th, 1938. Most of the twenty were 'Called-up' during the war. At the cessation of hostilities a few of them stayed on in the Services, and, of course, did not return to the Force. During the few years after the war, two left to join the Canadian Army and one emigrated to New Zealand.

On the completion of twenty-one years service, those of us who were left decided to celebrate by going to a show at the 'Victoria Palace', London and a dinner at 'The Avenue', Ilford (cost £2.13.3d. per couple, which included the coach fare).

We thoroughly enjoyed the evening and on our way home it was suggested we should do the same the following year, and we did. The outcome of all this is, we have met once a year (as near anniversary date as possible) every year since and we intend doing so, so long as there are two of us left to do so. Perhaps I should mention that these meetings include our wives.

We do not go to London any more, just a dinner (locally) a few drinks and a 'chin-wag'.

I. HOWELLS, Jr.
Ex. Sergeant late Southend Borough Force.

Specials not amused by sunglasses letter

Dear Sir,
Reference the letter headed "Not Uniform", in The Law, December '78 issue. It is difficult to understand what the Sgt. is getting at. I am incensed by the derogatory suggestions.

His facts are wrong, the day was bright and fine, the glasses are photochromatic. He also states no other members were wearing glasses, but I have to inform him that my Sub-Divisional Officer and myself were also wearing the same sort of glasses and we were in front of these two men, and I am sure that in a parade of some 200 there must have been others.

What do you mean, Sgt, by "mark of respect", or was it "follow my leader", also "the impression we have given"?

What about your colleagues who wear sunglasses driving cars and doing traffic duty? Do you include them in the meaning of your letter? I hope, Sgt, when you make your reports out you make much surer of your facts than you have done in this instance.

You have incensed the members of Special Constabulary, but perhaps that was your intention. Furthermore, you have sailed pretty close to defamation of character of men who voluntarily give their time and effort to help assist the Regular Force as and when requested to do so.

There is, I suggest, one thing;

Sincere thanks

Dear Sir,
May I through the 'Letters to the Editor' column of The Law say a sincere thank you, to all my friends and colleagues who kindly contributed to my retirement presents. A photograph of a presentation made by Mr. Taylor, A.C.C. on the 8th December 1978, was published in the December issue, and it was seen that one of the gifts was a delightful 'Webb Corbett' crystal decanter and six glasses.

Later at a private function, I was presented with a bowls bag and some 'Arthur Price' cutlery consisting of half a dozen fish knives and forks and half a dozen dessert knives. These gifts were presented by Women Chief Inspector Baker on behalf of past and present Women Police of the Force.

Detective Superintendent Harris presented me with a 'Falstaff' gallery tray, inscribed, from past and present members of the C.D.U.

Two further presentations, on behalf of the J.B.B. and Sergeants Branch Board, were made, one of the coveted Federation Plate, and one of a solid Pewter

you can do, Sgt, if you wish to uphold the dignity of the Police Force, to withdraw your letter and apologise.

F. M. Self
Divisional Officer
Special Constabulary
Braintree

"The Maynards",
39 Stubbs Lane, Braintree, Essex.

Dear Sir,

Normally I would not reply to Sergeant Rushbridge's letter headed "Not uniform", because I believe in the old maxim, where ignorance is bliss it's folly to be wise. But on this occasion I think an apology is called for.

I've always believed that in British Law a person is innocent until proved guilty, but Sergeant Rushbridge has committed the cardinal sin of any police force by judging and finding me guilty of an offence I did not commit, that is wearing sunglasses on duty. I can state categorically that I have never worn sunglasses on duty. The glasses I'm wearing are bifocal photochromatic glasses that were subscribed by my optician. And as any learned person knows, these change colour according to the light intensity.

Unfortunately or fortunately the sun came out on this November afternoon and my glasses automatically changed colour, where as under normal light conditions they would remain perfectly clear.

The Sergeant and his

colleagues must realise some of us are not as fortunate as others, and I am unfortunate to have defective vision. I must add, I haven't always had defective vision. During the war I served as a Flight Lieutenant in the R.A.F., and as you know for that job one had to have perfect vision. But as the years pass we get defects which the sergeant and his colleagues may experience, although I sincerely hope not.

I should also like to add, that in May of last year I was inspected by the, then Chief Constable of Essex, Sir Nightingale, wearing the same glasses with no adverse comment from him, so I am rather surprised at the criticism from such a lowly rank, and as I stated at the beginning of my letter an apology is called for.

I will conclude by offering to have my glasses examined by an independent optician to establish that they are not sunglasses, or is this just another wedge the sergeant is driving between the specials and the regular force?

L. W. C. Poulter,
Section Officer,
Braintree.

73 Panfield Lane,
Braintree.

Comic fashion

Dear Sir,
On reading Sergeant Rushbridge's letter in the last issue of The Law, I must agree I, too, thought on seeing the photograph taken at the Braintree Remembrance Day parade that two of the participants were members of the Mafia. However, on closer scrutiny, I came to the conclusion that it was two regulars masquerading as members of the Special Constabulary. "We owd Specials ain't daft!"

With all respect, Sergeant, if you and your colleagues were to take more interest in us, this kind of thing would not happen. In my own particular case, were I to report for duty dressed in such comic fashion, I would be told to pedal my bike and not come back, because my sergeant insists on the same high standard of turnout for Specials and regulars alike, and this is rigidly applied. No them-and-us nonsense.

True, people do judge the Force on the image we project and there are many ways of creating an image that endears us to the public, and the Special Constabulary, by its very nature of being a volunteer force assisting an under-strength regular force, should be in the forefront of promoting Essex Police.

S.O. E. J. CARRINGTON
Attached to
Melbourne Police Office,
Chelmsford.

Figurine depicting a Police Woman.

I have been truly overwhelmed with the affection shown towards me, throughout the Force, and the kind wishes expressed. I was proud to belong to a body of people, who by the very nature of their work, contribute to the well being of society. I was lucky also in choosing the Force I did, as I believe it to be second to none.

Thank you for having me.
Yours sincerely
V. BAYLISS

46 Glebe Road,
Wickford, Essex.

Very proud

DEAR SIR, — I would like to thank the members of the Force who acted as escort at the funeral of my husband, ex-Inspector George Stephenson. Thank you also for the beautiful flowers.

To be a member of Her Majesty's Constabulary is something to make one proud.

Grace Stephenson
Rosswoods,
106 Woodson Avenue,
Southend-on-Sea.

See also P.3

New style exams

THE Local Government Training Board has recently published new rules and syllabi for promotion examinations.

And from November 1979 onwards the annual day out of the rain just to go through the motions of writing a few answers, could be a thing of the past. Because any candidate in the exam to sergeant who scores less than 25% of the possible marks will be barred the next year.

No fewer than 59 Essex candidates would have qualified for this distinction if it had operated in November, 1977, the last result available.

Rules for the inspectors test have excluded anyone with less than 5 years' service on exam day unless he has over 12 months in the rank of sergeant.

Objective

Both exams, to inspector and sergeant, will now include objective questions where one must select the correct answer from a number of possibilities.

In the lower grade exam

MORE LETTERS Fred Paxman

Dear Sir,
I would be very pleased if you could put a small entry in The Law for me, thanking all officers for their attendance at the funeral of my late husband — Frederick Paxman — there were some 300 of them there. Also for the floral tribute from the Police Federation and the many donations to Cancer Research. I would also like to thank the representatives of various departments and others for their concern and practical offers of help. It was due to the very prompt action of the Police Federation Representatives and the Welfare Officer that enabled Robert and Clare (and, of course myself) to "enjoy" Christmas without household bills worrying me.

I hope I have covered everything — there were so many cards and telephone calls it was really wonderful to know that so many colleagues cared.

Thank you again.

Barbara, Robert and Clare Paxman
8 Mayflower Close,
Eastwoodbury Lane,
Southend-on-Sea,
Essex.

Not sporty

Dear Sir,
In December's "Law" you bemoaned the apparent lack of support for various force sports despite the increase in our numbers. Does it ever occur to you and others that some of us are not interested at all in sport either as a player or a spectator? The majority of us keep ourselves fit in our own way and anyway didn't join the Force to become just a member of a large social club. By all means offer full facilities to those who are sport lovers but leave the others (strange as we might seem) to our own more constructive pleasures in life.

GEORGE OF ONGAR
Police Station,
Ongar.

UNUSUALLY, George seems to have missed the point. No doubt his pleasures, conducted as an alternative to activities loosely described as sporting, are constructive. But what could be more constructive, for people of more tender years than George, than building a fit and active physique.

The point being made was that sport should not only receive active support from the younger element of the force but encouragement from senior officers.

Yes, it does occur to us that some people have no interest in sport and

both papers will include a section of this style of question and a section requiring essay-type answers. But in the inspectors test only one paper contains an objective section though this examination has been reduced to two papers.

This will not necessarily make the examination any easier, indeed the object is probably to widen the extent of knowledge demanded for a pass, especially with the advent of objective questions. But these measures will certainly cut down the burdensome task of marking thousands of

papers submitted by no-hopers, and make those papers which are completed easier — and therefore quicker — to mark.

Technique

With the new style of questions in mind, Force Training School have acquired a film on examination techniques which will be shown dates to be published later. The constables' refresher course who watched the film as "guinea pigs" were favourably impressed even suggesting that without having seen it first the chances of passing were poor at best.

Commendations

IT TAKES all sorts to make a commendation. These pats on the back always seem to arise out of ordinary day to day activities which somehow get out of hand.

As Skip and Bosun will tell you.

Bosun and Skip are Constable Ken Vickery's dogs and one afternoon they were out for a routine walk in Epping with the guv'nor when off he ran, chasing after some chap in a car.

Constable Vickery had seen an MGB car drive past him at high speed while he was off duty and walking the dogs. When the car stopped the driver, when challenged, ran away.

So Ken Vickery chased and caught him whereupon he admitted taking the car from Epping railway station.

Three months

All of which was worth 3 months detention for the driver, a commendation for Constable Vickery and complete disruption of routine for Skip and Bosun.

But down at Grays on the other hand the unusual is routine because, it seems, reading between the lines, that Constables are obliged to withstand attacks by the forces of Greater Nippon.



IPA notes

I START this month with yet another reminder about renewing membership for 1979. Pay day has now gone, and a lot of members have not yet renewed.

For the information of Headquarters members, Ps Paul Adams at the garage has now taken over as representative for Headquarters and would no doubt welcome anybody with a cheque for £2.50 made out to I.P.A.

Talking about Paul Adams, he and the caravan section are putting on a National caravan rally at Headquarters at the end of August this year, and during the weekend hope to hold a dance to which "K" Division and 20 of their guests from Stuttgart are being invited. Paul would probably appreciate some help

can be such a serious business

After Constable Jim Harrison had disarmed a man who was wielding a 6in knife a supervising-officer wrote, "It would appear the attack on the Officer bears some resemblance to the attacks sustained by Officers in the Armed Forces when dealing with members of the Japanese Imperial Army during the last World War."

The mind boggles.

It seems that information came to Constable Harrison about a fight where one man had a knife. Whether or not this was outside the Rising Sun P.H. is not recorded.

He eventually cornered the man hiding in an alley who, on his approach, lunged at him with the knife, shouting and swearing. His actual words are not recorded but presumably included Banzai, Kami Kazi, Yamaha and Fung Ku — well he had been drinking.

Constable Harrison drew his stick with a flourish reminiscent of a Japanese officer's sword gave matey a tap — on the left shoulder of course — which facilitated his arrest.

Jim's words aren't recorded either but, "Ah Sol!" might seem to fit.

Later the Chairman of the Bench commended him after fining the Samurai 30 Yen, ahem, £30.

Over to Corringham where a report following a fire stated, "I telephone the emergency services on 888." No commendations there — even if, as alleged, it was a misprint.

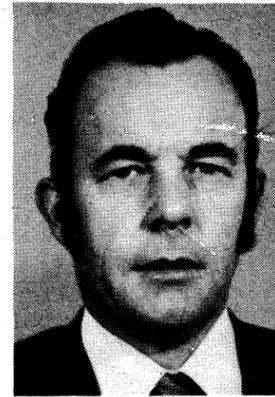
reached on Extension 428 at Headquarters.

No report on the Essex IPA would be complete without news from Southend, and this time I have news of two more functions. The first is a film and slide show to be held at Southend Police Station at 4.30 p.m. on Saturday March 10. I understand from Chico that he will obtain fish and

DETECTIVE DIES AFTER SHORT ILLNESS

FRIENDS and colleagues were shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden illness and death on January 25 of D.C. Ronald Henry Marshall of Headquarters C.I.D. at the age of 46 years. He leaves a widow Pat, son Geoff and daughter Debbie.

Ron left the Royal Air Force in 1962 and joined Essex Police. He served at Pitsea, South Ockendon, Wickham Bishops and Witham and moved to Headquarters in 1975. He



was a conscientious officer who received four Justices commendations during his service.

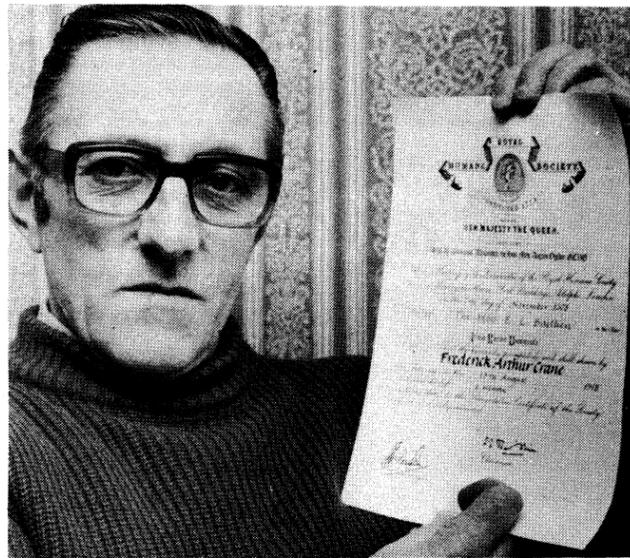
Members of the Witham branch of the R.A.F. Association, of which Ron was the treasurer, joined police officers in paying their respects at the funeral held in the Chelmsford Crematorium on Friday, February 2 and attended by over 200 people.

Fred saves neighbour's life at risk of his own

THE CHAIRMAN of the Magistrates at Chelmsford recently presented Traffic Warden Frederick Arthur Crane with a Royal Humane Society Award for his prompt action and skill in saving a woman's life.

In August last year, Mr Crane's next door neighbour, a Mrs Wilson, was cutting her back lawn with an electric mower. She accidentally cut through the lead and, as it had been raining, received a severe electric shock. Fred heard the commotion, ran round and gave the kiss of life and cardiac massage and managed to restore her heart beat and breathing and she survived.

At this time, Fred had only been out of hospital for three weeks and was recovering from his second



severe heart attack. It is generally thought that by saving Mrs Wilson's life, he put his own at risk.

GIFT MARKS 38 YEARS IN SPECIALS



TO MARK 38 years of service in the Special Constabulary, Divisional Officer F. M. Self received the gift of a clock from colleagues.

The presentation was made by the Chief Constable at a Specials' meeting on 21st January.

Mr. Self and his family have a total of 103 years police service. His father joined West Suffolk police in 1931 and became a Sgt. while his brother was a constable in Essex until he died whilst serving in 1948.

Pictured below are the Special Constabulary on a war footing in 1941. Mr. Self is standing at the extreme right while seated in the centre is Brig. General De Rougemont whose cup is still contested annually by Specials.

On the General's left is the Chief Constable Capt. F. R. J. Peel and beyond him Supt. H. S. Philibrown, later D.C.C.

Fractures after leap from parapet

BASILDON P.C. Rickie Batkin recently had to leap for his life at the scene of one of the worst pile-ups in Basildon for several years. As the Pitsea flyover

became covered with ice, twenty-five vehicles, including a coach loaded with 30 passengers skidded out of control and collided with each other. Several

police cars went to the scene, described by one witness as a "battlefield".

P. C. Batkin had helped put out a blazing car and was warning motorists not to smoke because of petrol spillage when he was forced to leap 20ft, over the parapet to avoid a car spinning towards him.

He received multiple injuries which included a broken pelvis and will probably be detained in Basildon Hospital for some

them (on payment) but he would like to get an idea of the numbers attending. Anyone interested, contact Chico on Southend 612174. Also at Southend, this time on March 3, a Social will be held. Tickets will be £1 per head. Please order them early. This also includes a fish and chip supper, paid for with your £1 ticket

Invitations have been received to the IPA 20th Anniversary in Amsterdam from April 23 to 27, 1979. Cost of programme will be about £40, fares extra, latest booking date is 15-2-79. Also Wurzburg, from 17 to 20 May, 1979, cost about £10, cheapest hotels about £4.50 per night, some hosting with families available. Fares extra. Latest

More on the reunion game

★ The things go



THE REUNION picture in the last issue sparked off a reaction at once and The Law received this photo from Ch. Insp. Ray Law. It was taken in January 1954 so this fine body of men now have their 25 years in.

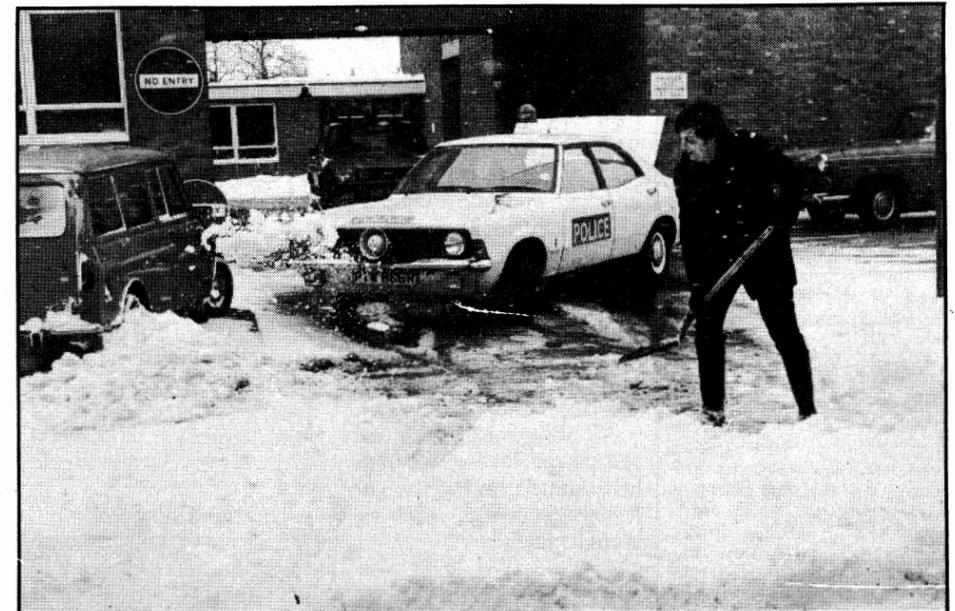
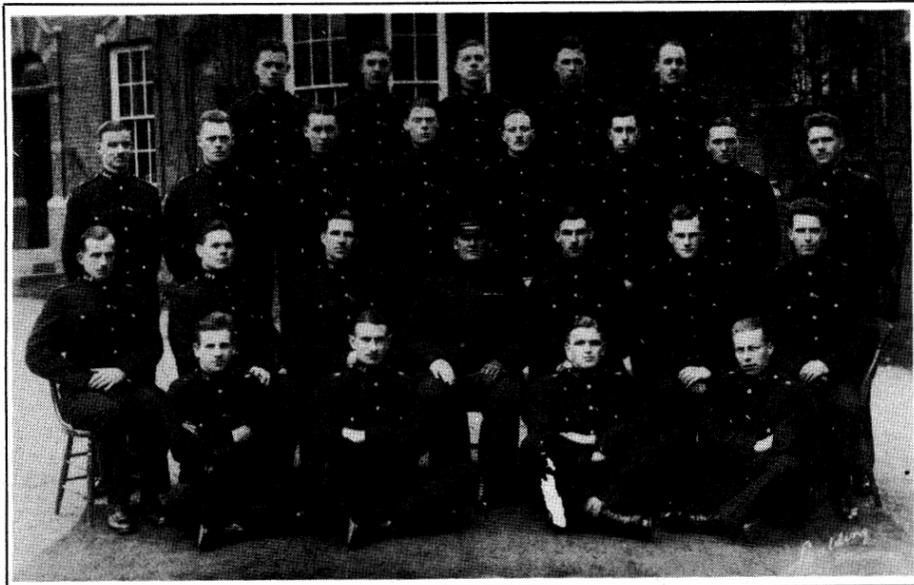
On the left of the back row is P.c. John Cottee and next to him, Ch. Insp. Law, who was then Southend Boro'.

In the centre row are Sgt. Bert Howard, third from left, and Insp. Terry Horton on the right. No longer in the force are Fred Gilby fifth from left back row, and Gordon Killick, fifth from left centre.

Also on this course but not in the picture as they were in the other class were Ch. Insp. Le Voi, and Constables Nettleton and Waller.

PARTY TIME all over the county during the festive season. Here headquarters kids give full attention to Uncle Nigel (Sgt. Harbour).

Still more—back to 1934



JOLLY FUN in the snow at Basildon as the early turn dig themselves out to join the wide world outside. But having got out things did not always run according to plan as the weather took control. Pictures, by courtesy of Evening Echo, show the problems of keeping the Service going at New Year weekend.

But, as Charles Loats, former Inspector, points out, this reunion game began a long time ago. Charles, who now lives in Eastbourne, sent The Law a photo of his recruit class of 1934, showing him on the left hand end of the second row from the back.

Says Charles Loats, "May the recruit intake of 1934 claim a first post-war reunion, supported by evidence of the menu card produced for the occasion on 9th March 1954." This was a twenty year anniversary but Charles is toying with the idea of another get together in 1984 — 50 years on.

The intake of 1934 numbered 23 young men who had been selected from a list of applicants 123 long. Twenty years later there were still some 17 left in the force, one had lasted only one day back in 1934, of whom 15 attended the reunion. Their names are shown on the back of the menu card.

Is this the ultimate in reunions, within living memory that is? The Law hardly dares to pose such a question, knowing the unfailing ability of police pensioners to go one better next month!



DRIVING can be a real headache in wintry weather. This patrol car came to grief in a division somewhere north of the Dartford tunnel, managing to turn turtle with hardly a dent except for the roof.

AT THEIR informal add nerching on

Members of Recruit Class 9.3.34 Remaining in the Force after Twenty Years

- | | | |
|--------------|----------|--------------|
| 1. Armstrong | Pc. 329 | Hornchurch |
| 2. Camp | Ps. 38 | Laindon |
| 3. Clapcott | Pc. 385 | S. Walden |
| 4. Cook | Ps. 22 | Collier Row |
| 5. Crisp | Ps. 25 | Mistley |
| 6. Dyer | Insp. | Headquarters |
| 7. Farrow | Supt. | S. Walden |
| 8. Graves | Ps. 57 | Rainham |
| 9. Hovcy | DPc. 534 | Hornchurch |
| 10. Loats | Insp. | Braintree |
| 11. Murray | Insp. | Headquarters |
| 12. Rayment | Pc. 539 | Headquarters |
| 13. Scollard | Pc. 541 | Hornchurch |
| 14. Stoneham | Ps. 87 | Headquarters |
| 15. Wright | Ps. 102 | Gt. Yeldham |

1934 1954

A RE-UNION DINNER

on the occasion
of the

**TWENTIETH
ANNIVERSARY**

of joining the

ESSEX COUNTY CONSTABULARY

Police Headquarters Chelmsford
Tuesday 9th March 1954
at 7 p.m.

1954 1934

For more views see letters, Page 2

u did in the Festive Season ★



THE THINGS people do at Christmas! It must be the sea air for Sgt. Tony Armstrong is stationed at West Mersea where the air is fresh at this time of the year. Pictured is Lee Armstrong with twins Rebecca and Simon born on December 30th.

to their necks in it again



ME of the Maldon Police team taken after their success in gaining 3rd place in this year's "Maldon Race" held in the River Blackwater on Christmas Eve. Contestants have to race across the river at low tide, drink a pint — the good part — and race back. Left to right, Pcs John Breen, Pc Jim Nichols, Dc Barry Barrow and Pc Steve Farmer. Not in the picture Pcs Barry Daymond and Pc Henry Blackford.



At meeting in the New Year the Federation J.B.B. receive an address from the Chief Constable who stressed the informality by sitting back of a chair.

Fred is Essex "brain"

THE BRAINCHILD of the energetic Chairman of the Federation Joint Branch Board, Ted "Stavros" Davidson, The Brain of Essex Police competition was staged at Headquarters the week before Christmas.

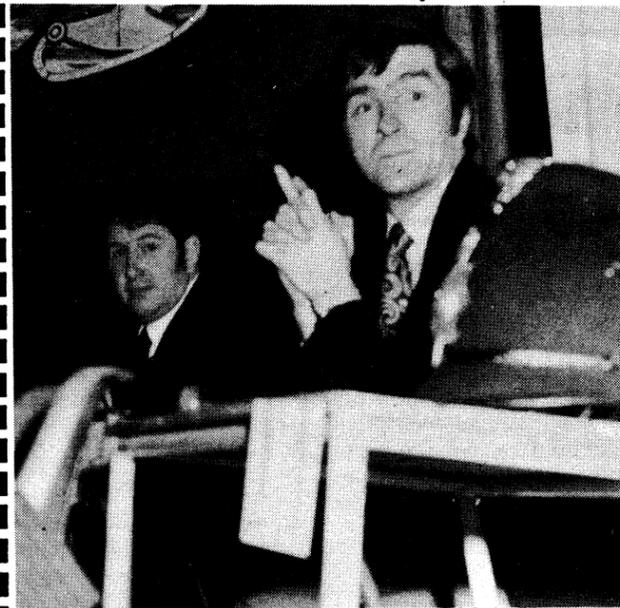
Thirteen contestants, representing police divisions, departments, superintendents, chief officers and civilians under-

went 13 rounds of questions on music, buildings, famous faces and general knowledge.

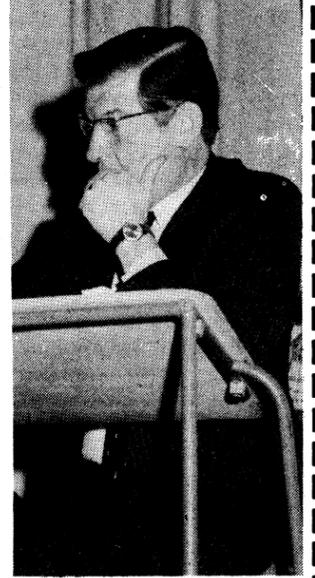
The winner was one-time TV personality Fred Feather, representing Rayleigh. Afterwards he remarked, "The music round was kind to me and after that the others couldn't catch up."

The evening was financially successful, £78

being raised to divide between the force and civilian benevolent funds. Ted Davidson is bent on repeating it in 1979 with perhaps some changes in the arrangements designed to speed up the action.



LEADERS in the brains stakes, Fred Feather, furthest from camera, the winner, and Dave Austin runner-up. The helmet was passed round to denote which contestant had first try at the bonus on failed questions.



A.C.C. Mr Harry Taylor looks thoughtful though it wasn't his question. When his turn came loud stage whispers could be heard coming from the direction of Mr Price, D.C.C., and his family. In spite of this — or perhaps because of it — Mr Taylor didn't win.



GENERAL view of the stage with JBB Secretary Jim Rodgers keeping the scores.

For Barry Daymond it was a personal triumph with a third place in the individual awards, after leading the field of about 45 for the whole of the race only to be pipped at the post by two more experienced "mud racers".

This is a sponsored event for local charities and the police team raised £80 in addition to a lot of goodwill.

THE ESSEX POLICE MAGAZINE

THE NEXT issue of the magazine which was due to be published in January will, unfortunately, be delayed due to the industrial problems which exist at present.

It is possible that not all the divisional notes will be included because of sudden changes of correspondents and material which unfortunately did not arrive in time to meet the deadline. Any omissions will be included in the Summer edition.

The Editor is always looking for articles of any description. Holidays, hobbies, funny stories, visits — and you may even receive a fee. Please forward items to the Editor, Driving School, Police Headquarters, Chelmsford, to arrive no later than 1st May, 1979.

DISCO DANCE
 Brentwood Police Station
 Wednesday February 14th 1979
 Buffet and Raffle
 Tickets 60p
 8-12 midnight, bar closing 12 midnight
 Tickets obtainable from Pc. ODELL, Wpc. ODELL and Pc. CRAIG at Brentwood.

Federation Open Meeting later

FEDERATION open meeting will not be held this year until after the Annual Conference in May.

The J.B.B. have decided that it is more informative to report back afterwards what occurs at the conference than to tell members beforehand what matters are going to be dealt with.

The force open meeting will be in June. Another innovation will be to hold it at Chelmsford's Lion and Lamb and to follow it with some entertainment to mark the 60th anniversary of the Police Federation.

Soccer squad to play in Holland

UNTIL the snows came, Essex Police were having a comparatively successful soccer season. But since New Year the snow has done what other opposition couldn't do — played them right off the park!

Actually, one match was played in the Collinge Cup contest, HQ v Chelmsford, but there was an element of farce.

The referee arrived, declared the pitch unplayable, got into his car and departed. But the teams thought otherwise

and as there was another ref present, the match went on.

Result was an 8-0 win for HQ.

All other matches have been snowed off, despite Sports Office strictures to play matches on specific dates.

To pleasanter matters: In early May the football section plan a "mini-tour" in Holland. A party of 30

are to travel Sheerness to Flushing.

There will be two nights in Holland, three matches and lots of contact with the Dutch Police.

There are some places still available, but no-one goes for nothing. The boat fare is about £16 and bed and meals are about £8 a day.

Martin Slade at Harlow has all the details.

Southend's run-walk title

THE double-leg winter championship — running and walking — straddled the Christmas holiday as usual. Scores from the two events are added together to give an overall champion division.

As an experiment the 10-mile walk was moved back to the end of January to assist the organisers but the cross-country race went ahead as usual on the Wednesday before Christmas.

But at a new venue, Rayleigh, laid on by captain Andy Down. And he had a good day, too. After giving Andy Hayman his head on the first of two laps he took command to win by 20 seconds.

There was some nonsense in the woods when runners couldn't follow the arrows which were apparently too large to see properly. After Hayman duly occupied 2nd

place, Atkinson, Perrott, Daymond and Pearmain finished close together.

The team race was the tightest ever, Southend, Rayleigh and Harlow all within two points. Had it not been for shift Sgt. Barry Ansell turning up with his men — well, some of them

CROSS COUNTRY

1, Down (S'end) 28.05; 2, Hayman (Ray.) 28.25; 3, Atkinson (Harlow) 32.50; 4, Perrott (Ray.) 32.01; 5, Daymond (Chelm.) 32.05; 6, Pearmain (Gr.) 32.27; 7, Ganley (Har.) 33.39; 8, Fairweather (Col.) 35.33; 9, Ansell (S'end) 36.17; 10, Schulz (Col.) 37.42; 11, Watson (Har.) 37.44; 12, Fitzjohn (S) 38.17; 13, Vale (S) 40.50; 14, Stevens (S) 44.16. Women (1 lap) S. McAuley (Col.) 17.11. Teams: Southend 26, Rayleigh 24, Harlow 24, Colchester 13, Chelmsford 10, Grays 9.

— Southend, the cup-holders, would have been defeated.

As it was, they went into the 2nd leg just two points ahead.

Walkers against Met & City

A GOOD field of about 30 assembled for the 10 miles walk last Wednesday and it would have been better still had they all been Essex men. Alas a majority were guests contesting the inter-force match held in conjunction with the inter-divisional event.

Amos Seddon, the Met Police international cut out a steady pace from the start to draw away and win by 1½ minutes from former junior international Julian Robinson, walking for Anglia Striders, the club to

Force lottery

RESULT of the draw held at Basildon on Sunday 24.12.78.

1st prize Pc 694 R. H. Cook, Dunmow, £674.87; 2nd prize Pc 1316 R. A. Rozga, Hullbridge, £337.43rd prize Ps 399 A. S. Davies, HQ Ops FSU, £168.71; 4th prize Pc 229 L. M. Holmes, Rayleigh, £84.35.

Consolation prizes at £16.87 each — Insp C. E. Clark, HQ (University); Pc 157 C. R. Howell, Harwich; Pc 1738 K. M. Skingley, Southend; T. W. 3 L. D. Gales, Leigh; Ds 358 T. Dickinson, Saffron Walden CID.

RESULT of the draw held at Chelmsford on January 26, 1979.

1st prize P.c. 638 S. L. Collins, Harwich, £697.35; 2nd prize W.P.c. 3126 C. Fielding, Bennett, Harwich, £174.33; 4th prize D.s. 117 D. K. Parish, S. B. Harwich, £87.16.

Consolation prizes at £17.43 each: P.c. 1408 R. S. Townsend, Harwich; P.s. 35 M. K. Bliss, H.Q. Traffic; P.c. 970 J. I. McCabe, Copford; P.s. 379 L. G. Bramhill, Billericay; Insp. R. M. Phillips, Basildon.

The next draw will be held at Brentwood Police Station during the evening of Thursday, February 22, 1979.

Inter Divisional Points		
Southend	26	+ 6 = 32
Harlow	24	+ 3 = 27
Chelmsford	10	+ 15 = 25
Rayleigh	24	+ 0 = 24
Colchester	13	+ 7 = 20
Headquarters	0	+ 15 = 15
Grays	9	+ 0 = 9

which several Essex Police walkers belong.

Next came Peter Ryan, H.Q., not really at his sharpest due to persistent hamstring trouble but taking the force championship comfortably from Denis Sheppard, next home but 4 minutes behind.

Barry Daymond, despite having some style problems to sort out must be well satisfied with his fitness at this time of year. He took 3rd Essex place ahead of John Hedgethorpe.

Met Police, 21 pts, were only just ahead of Essex, 27 pts., with Anglia Striders, 32, and City Police, 81, following.

The inter-divisional event was a tie between H.Q. and Chelmsford at 15 points each with Colchester 3rd. When the cross country points were added, however, Southend had just held it, thanks mainly to Keith Fitzjohn who finished 5th and scored just enough.

And thanks to Vaughan Mullender, Harlow held 2nd place — his 3 points were also just enough.

10 MILES WALK

1st. P. Ryan (H.Q.) 79.15; 2nd D. Sheppard (Chelm.) 83.57; 3rd B. Daymond (Ch.) 85.16; 4th J. Hedgethorpe (H.Q.) 88.01; 5th K. Fitzjohn (S'end) 108.50; 6th R. Creer and J. Heggetty (Col.) and V. Mullender (Harl.) 110.15; 9th T. Britten (S'end) 126.40.

Women: (5,200m) 1, S. McAuley (Col.) 29.37; 2, H. Sheppard (Chelm.) 33.20.

Walking

THE weather hits race walking as hard as any sport. Since the sport is conducted, not in expensive stadia, but on the public roads which have to be shared with motor traffic, there is an element of danger at the best of times.

On January 6, indeed, the Everard memorial races, conducted at Police HQ, were the only races to take place in Britain (walking that is) and these were only possible thanks to a brush and shovel gang clearing a 330mts road circuit in St Margarets Road.

Miss McAuley took the opportunity to demonstrate her fitness despite a lengthy gap since her last race winning the 3000mts womens race in a respectable time.

John Burke's warriors

ATTENTION all former force footballers who were in the team when John Burke was manager. John is organising a charity football match for April 1st — don't worry about the date, it's for a good cause, Chelmsford Senior Citizens and the Police Dependents Trust.

BURKE'S II v. MANCHESTER CITY.

John hopes that his former colleagues will get in touch — the likes of Alf Henry, Taff Jones and John Rhymes or others from that era — so that the team can be selected (Tel: Chelmsford 50001).

SPONSORSHIP — COMMENTATORS

The kick-off is confirmed for 3.30 p.m. on Chelmsford City ground. John Motson has agreed to do the commentary and David Coleman hopes to come also.

Sponsorship has been forthcoming from Ford Motor Company, Tricentrol Chelmsford and Millington & Sheldrick of Chelmsford.

Team finish last despite a little help

IN THE January race of the Regional cross-country league Essex were really seen off at Brighton, despite the intervention of one rather unlikely competitor.

First, the sole Essex runner in the women's event, Jane Pledger, went off course while lying 4th. Turning the wrong way on woodland tracks, she was back to 15th by the time she found the finish line.

The men's pace was fast and

furious but Andy Down took them on and in what amounted to a blanket finish for a cross-country event, was run back to 8th. A good result in a season when the standard is higher than ever and a few seconds mean several places.

Steve Pearmain ran his usual solid race, finishing 19th in the

beginning of a snow storm.

The 3rd Essex runner was John Hedgethorpe in his first running race for 12 years. He was less lucky for, by the time he trudged up in 57th position, the blizzard was well established. Never mind, there were 17 even less lucky ones behind and after 12 years this is heartening.

Only the plate

WITHOUT any player progressing beyond the semi-final stage, Essex drew a blank in the Regional badminton championships at Guildford in January.

But having lost in the first round of the womens event Miss Downman went on to win the plate competition, consolation for Essex.

Grays 8-2

IN an inter-divisional table tennis match last week Grays polished off Colchester with time to spare. With the score at 8-2 they left early to beat the weather.

Captain John Barcham and his team, A. Cooper, M. Beale and P. Layzell now await their next opponents.

Seaxes Auto Club

NOW that the festive season is over, motor sport can look forward to a very varied and interesting year, rallies, auto tests, hill climbs and marshalling at motor racing events, as well as the usual high standard of discos and of course the now-annual pram race. It is hoped that in conjunction with the opening of the new Headquarters building and bar, a weekly club night can be held. Details will be advertised in due course.

The Sleigh Ride rally was held on Friday 15 December. Santa Claus put in a special appearance during the early stages (well it makes a change from the black dog!). John Hart and Brian Jaggs were the eventual winners, with Mick Bliss and Alan Giggins coming second. The novice crew of Dick Sandels and Chris Godbold finished in third place.

An Old Year's disco was held at the Training School on Friday 29 December, and it was at this event that the annual awards were presented. The Hermetite Trophy, awarded for the best club member of the year: 1st — Derek Stone; 2nd — Tony Campen; 3rd — Phil Knight; 4th — Ian Weatherley.

Ashdown Trophy, awarded for drivers in 12 car rallies. 1st — Pete Johnson; 2nd — Brian Jaggs; 3rd — Lloyd Shelley.

The Jack Anclor Memorial Trophy, awarded for navigators in 12 car rallies. 1st — Derek Arber; 2nd — John Hart and Mick Bliss; 3rd — Tab Hunter.

The Derek Arber Marshals Trophy, awarded to the member who has marshalled most times during the year. This includes marshalling all over East Anglia, Brands Hatch and Silverstone, as well as Seaxes events. 1st — Tony Campen; 2nd — Alan Weatherley; 3rd — Graham Ferris, Phil Knight, Ian Weatherley.

Awards were also presented to Nick Bird and Lloyd Shelley for their services to 12-car rallies during 1978. Congratulations to all award winners.

The Harcog Rally took place overnight on 20/21 January. We were invited to marshal on this event, and were able to provide 11, who I am sure enjoyed the rally but probably suffered with sore eyes due to the very dense freezing fog.

The first rally of the year takes place on Friday 9 February. This is called the Fildyke Rally, starting at Headquarters. Contact Graham Ferris at Chelmsford Town for regs or offers to marshal. The March Hare Rally will be run on 9 March. Contact Tony Campen at the garage for details.

The Law Shop

HOLIDAY accommodation, Cornwall, B&B £3, homely, comfortable. Ideal for touring Cornwall and South Devon, regret no children or pets. Contact Mrs Nicoll (police widow) Tericia, Well Lane, St Clear, Nr Liskeard, Cornwall

always been in the forefront when it comes to racing abroad. For one thing there is the pleasure of travelling to unusual venues and taking on opposition one does not normally meet. Then the prizes are often more attractive than in this country and one also comes back with souvenirs. None more so than Denis Sheppard who recently came back married. Undeterred by this experience he was back in Germany in January for an indoor race, staged in the fish hall at Cuxhaven when he took sixth place in a strong field. His wife, Heike, also walks and contested the women's 5000mts.

RESULTS

Chigwell 10,000mts: 23.12.78
23rd J. Hedgethorpe, 53.37

Chelmsford "Everard" meeting: 6.1.79

Women's 3,000mts: 1st S. McAuley, 14.48.

Met Police open 11kms: 14.1.79

31st D. Sheppard 55.09; 64th J. Hedgethorpe, 60.35.

Blackheath 9kms: 21.1.79

D. Sheppard, 44.54.

Cuxhaven 10,000mts: 28.1.79

6th D. Sheppard, 48.25. Women's

NOW IT'S IN WRITING September pay instalment will be "updated"

AFTER members of the Lord Edmund-Davies committee of enquiry, visiting a number of forces, had learned that policemen were sceptical of the Government's intention of implementing the committee's recommendation that the pay rise instalment of September, 1979, should include a wage index linked supplement, they contacted the Home Office.

Now Federation headquarters has been assured in a letter received in January: "The Government's commitment is quite explicit. Lest the value of the Committee's report and the Government's acceptance of it should be jeopardised by doubts about this, I thought that I should draw attention to what the Home Secretary said in Parliament. After outlining the Government's decision on phasing he said, 'The instalment due on 1st September, 1979, will be updated in accordance with the Committee's recommendations.'

"We trust that this will dispel any doubts which may exist'."

Federation Notes



by Jim
Rodgers

Criminal Procedure

A working party from the Essex J.B.B. submitted a very comprehensive working paper on Criminal Procedure to the J.C.C.



for which we received some plaudits from other forces. It was heartening to note that when the J.C.C. put forward its evidence to the Royal Commission, many of the points put forward by our working party were included as recommendations.

This means that a few

members of this force may well have assisted — in the long term — in changes being wrought in future criminal proceedings, which will benefit all working police officers, and simplify their working life as well.

Diaries

I have received several complaints about the standard of the binding for this year's Diary — including one from a Very Important Person — and have taken this matter up with the producers of the diary. I have received assurances that the quality will be up to standard for next year, and apologies for any inconvenience caused. I am afraid I haven't any further supplies for this year to replace those which are defective.

Conference 1979

The J.B.B. are sponsoring seven motions to central conference which will be held at Blackpool in May 1979, five of which have been accepted by the conference arrangements committee and the other two we are arguing about at the moment. But, nevertheless, Essex Police will be contributing to other debates on motions put forward by other forces.

Three of these motions deal with incidental out of pocket expenses for residential courses, one calls for a clear definition of such a course, and one for the expense to be brought within Police Regulations, the third to make it available for recruits in initial training.

There is another which deals with duty facilities for officers who have been given financial assistance to study certain approved subjects under Home Office terms. Another is for resettlement courses for retiring officers, and an age limit for working shifts. Finally there is a motion concerning outside duties for officers under 19 years of age.

Open Meeting

It has been decided that the Force Open Meeting this year will be held on Monday June 11, 1979, and the venue will be the Banqueting Hall of the Lion and Lamb in Chelmsford. The idea of changing the venue is to celebrate the Sixtieth Anniversary of the Police Federation, in the first instance, but additionally it is felt that the J.B.B. can then give a full account of conference to the membership soon after the event, and the better weather might encourage more to attend. We will be publishing more details at

Benevolent Fund needs your vote to get supplementary grant

EVERY five years a sort of referendum is held in the force to decide the allocation of a quota grant received by Essex from the National Police Fund.

Every force gets this grant and the Essex amount is about £200 per annum. But there is also a supplementary grant — now standing at about £175 — given to forces who satisfy two conditions.

First 75 per cent of the force must subscribe at least a penny per week to the Benevolent Fund to which

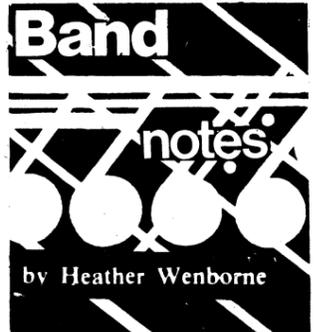
the main grant is allocated. This requirement is currently met in Essex where this amount is part of the annual "welfare" allocation.

Then the Chief Constable must undertake to go on allocating the grant to the same fund for the next five years.

The last time this was done was in 1973, five years ago. Now "referendum" forms have gone out again and each member of the force must opt for benevolent or

recreational purposes for the grant.

The Benevolent Fund makes grants to police pensioners, some of whom were serving when the National Police Fund was set up after the General Strike in 1926, and is a worthy cause.



HAPPY New Year to all readers of Bandnotes. The Band already has quite a few engagements booked for 1979, where we hope you will come along and support us.

Our Christmas Concert for 1978 was again a success, and the Essex Police Band were pleased to be able to donate a cheque for £25 to the Police Convalescent Home at Hove, from the collection made at the concert.

The Band have two engagements in February, on Saturday, February 10, the Band are playing at the Public Hall, Witham, where they will be joined by the Suffolk Police Choir for a concert for the Maldon Lions Club, and on Tuesday, February 20, playing at the Archer Hall, Billericay for the local Rotary Club. Everyone is welcome to attend, please come along if you can.

Now news of an engagement a little "out of the ordinary" to say the least for the Essex Police Band.

It is my guess that about 90 per cent of Police Officers who are not on duty on March 17, this year will be sitting at home in front of the television all over the county watching the football highlight of the year, the League Cup Final but not the members of the Essex Police Band. We will be there.

The Band has been invited by the Metropolitan Police Band, along with other neighbouring Police Bands to form a Massed Police Band to play at Wembley for the Cup Final. If you are not one of the lucky few to be there, do point us out to all your friends on the television!

Good listening.

AFTER being well out in estimating the date of last month's flashback picture, The Law will confine any remarks about this view of the Traffic fleet to notes about the shining black paint, the closed neck tunics, and the domestic curtains still hanging in the H.Q. windows behind. Now, who will tell us the date?

a later date but pencil it in your diary now.

As an added inducement to attract an audience we are considering some sort of entertainment could be provided to round off the evening — Ted Davidson suggested we set fire to the Prison again!

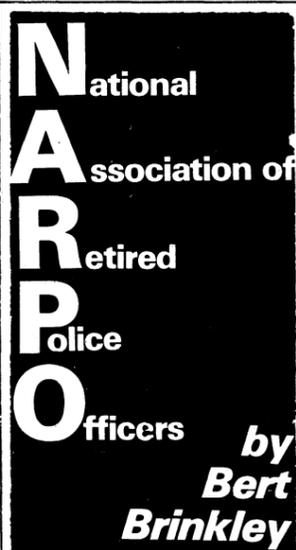
Federation Ball

Again pens and pencils poised, the J.B.B. intend to resurrect the federation ball, which was so popular a few years ago, and which was dropped because it became too expensive to run. This will be on Friday September 28, 1979, and again will be at the Lion and Lamb, Chelmsford; we anticipate cost to be about £6 per head, so put that in the diary and start saving! All proceeds will go towards the orphans Christmas presents, we hope to

accommodate 360 persons comfortably.

22 Years

It is the belief of the J.B.B. that some effort should be made to restore the prestige of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. At their meeting on January 29, the proposition that an investiture should be held annually so that officers who wished could be presented with their medals in a suitable atmosphere was considered and it was decided to go to the Chief Constable in Joint Consultation to achieve something of the sort. This sort of thing is a very personal matter and each of us would probably react differently to the idea — I wonder if you would care to react to the suggestion, in writing, to me if you have any strong feelings.



Subscriptions

Reminders are being sent out (Chelmsford Branch) with the next bulletins for subscriptions due for 1978 and in two cases 1976 and 1977. I must remind members very strongly that having to issue reminders causes a great deal of unnecessary work both to the treasurer and myself and I urge members to be more punctual in sending subscriptions which should be payable by December 31 for the year following. I would also remind members of the Chelmsford

branch that the committee has ruled that anyone owing three years subscriptions should be struck off and will not be permitted to rejoin save on payment of all arrears.

Widows' Pensions, Police Pensions Regs. 1973.

As the result of conversations, in certain quarters and research within the Pensions Regulations, it was apparent to me that the Regulations dealing with the increase of Widows' pensions has not been given the prominence it deserved and I feel that the Regulation in question should be brought to the notice of pensioners, here it is:

Schedule 3, Part V. (Regs. 27, 28 and 30).

1 (1) This part shall apply unless, immediately before his death the husband was neither — (a) serving as a Regular policeman called up for service as an auxiliary policeman or serving as a member of an overseas corps otherwise than as a regular policeman, nor (b) in receipt of a pension.

(2) For the purposes of this paragraph the provisions of Regulation 10 relating to persons treated as being in receipt of an ordinary pension shall be disregarded.

2 (1) Where this Part applies, a Widow's ordinary, special or accrued pension shall, so far as necessary, be increased in respect

of the first 13 weeks for which it is payable so as to secure that in respect of each such week, the aggregate amount of the pension and of any children's allowances payable in respect of the husband's death is not less than — (a) his pensionable pay for a week immediately before he died, where he was serving or called up for service as mentioned in para. (1) (a) or — (b) the weekly amount of his pension immediately before he died in any other cases.

To simplify the matter, the position of the widow is as follows: In the past a widow's pension commenced the day following the pensioner's death, in future, an amount equal to his pension will continue to be paid for a further period of 13 weeks after his death.

Garden Party

The Committee has fixed the date for this gathering for **Friday July 7, 1979** at the Training School, Police Headquarters. Owing to the curriculum for Force Training it was not possible to hold it on any other date, hence the change to a Friday. It would seem from past experience that the weather can be guaranteed for Thursdays but we will do our best for 1979. As on previous occasions funds are very low and expenses are ever-increasing, although I have not been approached for donations I

Continued on page 8

Conversion job



THE VAN will have a familiar look to Southend officers because it is their old prison run vehicle.

Now in the hands of the Support Unit it has taken on a new lease of life as an operations support vehicle.

There is seating for 12 and tables inside so that it can be used for briefing small numbers of personnel or for refreshments where an operation cannot justify a mobile canteen. And it has been adapted to transport equipment such as riot shields. The vehicle could also be used as a detention room.

Chief Inspector Mike Blackwell, Support Unit commander, stresses that the vehicle is available for divisional use in conjunction with F.S.U. jobs.

Seen aboard the vehicle while demonstrating its uses at HQ are FSU Constables John Weatherley and Gary Matthews.

Conversions were carried out by Sgt Paul Adams at HQ garage.

A small intake by recent standards



A CHRISTMAS PRESENT for Chelmsford Division from the most recent recruit group who passed through local procedure training immediately after the festive season. Almost half the intake have gone to Chelmsford Division.

They are, from the left, front: S. Deank formerly a student, posted to Maldon; L. Jones (sales assistant) Tilbury; D. Ginn (Radiographer) Corringham; P.

Chown (army) Basildon; D. Capon (apprentice engineer) Chelmsford.

Rear: M. Bannister (electronics engineer) Chelmsford; S. Lee (shop manager) Billericay; J. Knights (salesman) Chelmsford; M. Jones (student) Maldon; A. Blake (despatch assistant) Westcliff; P. Brochen (bus driver) Southend.

Comfort for crime victims in Chelmsford

EVERY police officer who has been to the scene of a burglary knows the shock and distress caused to

people when they discover that somebody has broken into their home, rifled through their belongings, stolen possessions and often left a trail of destruction behind them.

Lack of resources means that the first aim of the Police is to investigate the crime and track down the offender, and although sympathetic, little time can be spared to comfort and help the victim. In future, however, officers on the Chelmsford Division will be able to put victims in touch with someone who can help.

The Essex Victim Support Scheme, manned by a group of volunteers accredited to the Probation and After Care Service under the Chairmanship of Mr. Michael Halford, Assistant Chief Probation Officer for Essex, was formed in the new year to help the victims of crime. There are about eighteen similar schemes throughout the country, but the Chelmsford scheme is the first in Essex.

Detective Superintendent George Harris was a member of the working party set up to discuss the idea. He says that he is satisfied that the volunteers have undergone an intensive training programme in counselling and crisis intervention techniques and that whilst their first aim will be caring for the victim, they have had advice from experts in medicine, insurance and law which means they have sufficient basic knowledge to help with such things as insurance or compensation. They can put victims in touch with other social agencies and even help clear up if necessary.

When scenes-of-crime officers go to the scene of a burglary, they will give a leaflet explaining the scheme to the householder. This will be followed by at least one call from a volunteer who will carry a photographed identity card.

The scheme's co-ordinator, Mr. Eric Borsberry, a senior probation officer, will contact Chelmsford Divisional Headquarters daily and be given details of all burglaries. Brian Powell, Chelmsford's Crime Prevention Sergeant is the Police Liaison Officer and details of incidents which are not burglaries, for example serious or fatal road accidents in Chelmsford Division when the police officer dealing thinks the Victims Support Scheme can help should be passed to him.

Happy the days of the birch rod

THE question was, as the Community Services Branch swung into action on January 2nd, who will be first with a form CSB1.

To those not in the know this question might seem more appropriate to April 1st, but forms CSB1 are to be submitted immediately upon the detection of a juvenile as responsible for an offence.

And first in were Southminster with not one but two offenders. To those not in the know Southminster Section is about as far east as you can go beyond Maldon, before Holland. The offence? What else, trespassing armed in search of game — poaching!

Sgt. Bob Newbury, Sheriff of those parts, wrote to thank Supt Geoff Markham for his telephoned message of congratulations at being not only the first but completing the form correctly, noting, "It has been the practice in this section in the past to impose sentences of hard labour and birching on children and young persons."

Warrants

"I attach copies of warrants as used by the Southminster Justices and ask if the stock of same which is still held should now be destroyed."

The Law understands that he received no answer to this query from the predominantly social work slanted CSB.

The warrant forwarded by Sgt Newbury contains enough good old-fashioned words like convicted, hard labour, privately whipped, and birch rod, to cause shudders among the sociologists and tears to the trendy.

"You the said constables are hereby authorised and commanded as soon as practicable to privately whip the Defendant with *** strokes of a birch rod."

Charlie Carter ends 40 years service



WITH colleagues at Harwich Police Station, Charlie Carter on the last day of his 40-year stint.

ON December 6, 1978, Charles Carter retired from the Police Service for the second time! He was well known throughout the Police Force both by the older serving officers as former P.c. 302, and by the remainder as the man who provided the tea and coffee at Harwich Police Station, regular stopping place for Driving School Courses, Traffic Patrols and many

other "foreigners" who braved the journey into the County's North Eastern Outpost.

Charlie Carter joined the Essex County Constabulary on September 26, 1938, and served at Brentwood, Pitsea, Kirby and Clacton, before retiring at Harwich on December 31, 1963. The very next day he started work as the Orderly and therefore had unbroken service with the police

authority for over 40 years. During this time he has obviously seen many changes in the conditions of the job and one of his favourite stories is of the way in which removals of officers were carried out by the same removal van — you arrived at your new police house and your furniture was placed out in the front garden whilst the other officer's furniture was taken out of the house and loaded into the van. I wonder how modern

furniture would stand up to being left out in the rain for a couple of hours?

On his last day, Charlie was presented with a mounted brass door knob (suitably inscribed) to ensure that he still has something to occupy his retirement days, and at a farewell party at the Phoenix Hotel on December 19, attended by about 80 people, he was presented with a cut glass decanter, bought from donations from friends and colleagues in many departments.

Charlie will now devote more of his time to the Harwich Concert Band of which he is Vice-President and staunch member, and the Dovercourt Bowls Club whose Captain he will be this year. Mrs. Carter, who is a bowls player of County standard, will no doubt encourage him in this aspect.

The photographs were taken on Charlie Carter's last day and are by courtesy of Ken Clow of St. Osyth.



WHEN the tea boy leaves . . . Charles Carter gives some instruction to Ch. Insp. Rand and Shirley Carmen.

N.A.R.P.O.

know that anything towards the fund will be greatly appreciated. The matter will be raised at my Committee meeting in January and I have no doubt that the Chelmsford Branch will be sending a donation as in past years, and it is also hoped that our other two branches will do likewise.

Brain Contest

The Association was represented at the Brain of Essex Police Contest by Charlie Fleming, Chelmsford Branch. Although he gave a good account of himself he failed to secure a prize. Nevertheless, he gained valuable experience for future contests which I understand will be held later in the year. Good luck Charlie and thanks for representing the Association.

The Law

H.Q. phone extensions
374 and 375

NEXT ISSUE

5 MAR.