



# THE LAW

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## Schools liaison a whole-force function — not just specialists

**THE Essex Police Schools Liaison scheme will come into effect when the new school term starts on the 6th September.**

The details of the scheme have been proposed by a Working Group of policemen and teachers but it was the Chief Constable who provided the main

guidelines when he addressed the first meeting of the Working Group in January 1979.

He said then that he believed firmly that police-schools liaison was a matter for the whole force and not for a small number of specialist officers. Whilst therefore, specific officers

ought to be appointed to liaise with particular schools, the police effort in schools was not to be regarded as solely their responsibility.

He also emphasised that an important feature of the scheme should be the appointment of a police officer local to the school as

### New scheme starts on 6th Sept

the schools liaison officer in the belief that the policeman the children see in the school should be the one that they see policing their locality.

There are, of course, a number of ways in which police officers become involved in schools in addition to their traditional role of directly enforcing the law. One of these forms of involvement is assisting teaching staff when particular problems arise in relation to individual children. It may be that a child has committed a minor offence or is the victim of an offence and teachers particularly value the assistance of a police officer they know in these instances.

Police officers also talk

to classes of children in schools on a variety of subjects on which they have particular expertise. In the case of primary school children, the tendency is to concentrate on road safety and advising children on how to avoid becoming the victims of child molesters. In secondary schools the emphasis is on social education — the police role in society; the rights and duties of a citizen, drug abuse and other subjects relevant to the social education of teenagers.

In order to provide this type of involvement, each primary and each secondary school within the Force area will have a local beat officer appointed as its liaison officer. Those officers appointed to primary schools will be responsible for both main aspects of liaison. They will

deliver the basic programme of talks designed to prevent children from becoming victims of accidents and crime and they will provide assistance to teachers when particular "police related" problems arise.

In the secondary schools, the beat officers will also be available to assist teachers in this aspect of their work. The programme of talks will be delivered by CSB officers where they will provide part of the social education programme of each school.

The whole idea of schools liaison has crime prevention as its basis. The intention is to alert children to particular dangers which exist and take part in that area of the educative process which is designed to turn children into responsible citizens.

### PRESS AWARDS FOR ASSISTING POLICE



THE Chief poses with winners of cash awards for their help to the Police — story on page 2. Pictured from left to right: Mr. Albert Mayhead, Mr. Frederick Vernon Cook, The Chief, Jonathan Smith, Mr. David May.

## Now for the Atlantic



**SPECULATION** about what these two doughty oarsmen are up to could not match reality.

Are they, for instance, setting a good example of fuel conservation by taking to manual propulsion? Has the new launch run aground — or even sunk? Have overtime restrictions put the fleet in dock and left the Guv'nors to paddle their own canoe? Are they training to row the Atlantic?

Well, no. Having tackled the comparative calm of Hanningfield Reservoir our oarsmen, Inspector George Thurkle and Supt. Alan Gilling, have decided to rest on their laurels.

The facts? This was apparently the only way to visit the Diving Squad using ultrasonic gear to locate an object seen to fall into the Reservoir from a passing aircraft — and if you believe that . . .

### WEDDING BELLS



**JUNE BRIDE** Julia Foster, W.D.c. at Headquarters with new husband Brian Jeapes of the Diving Unit. They were married at Leigh-on-Sea on June 16. Both were cadets before joining the force. Picture by D.c. Burns, Southend.

## Police exhibits popular



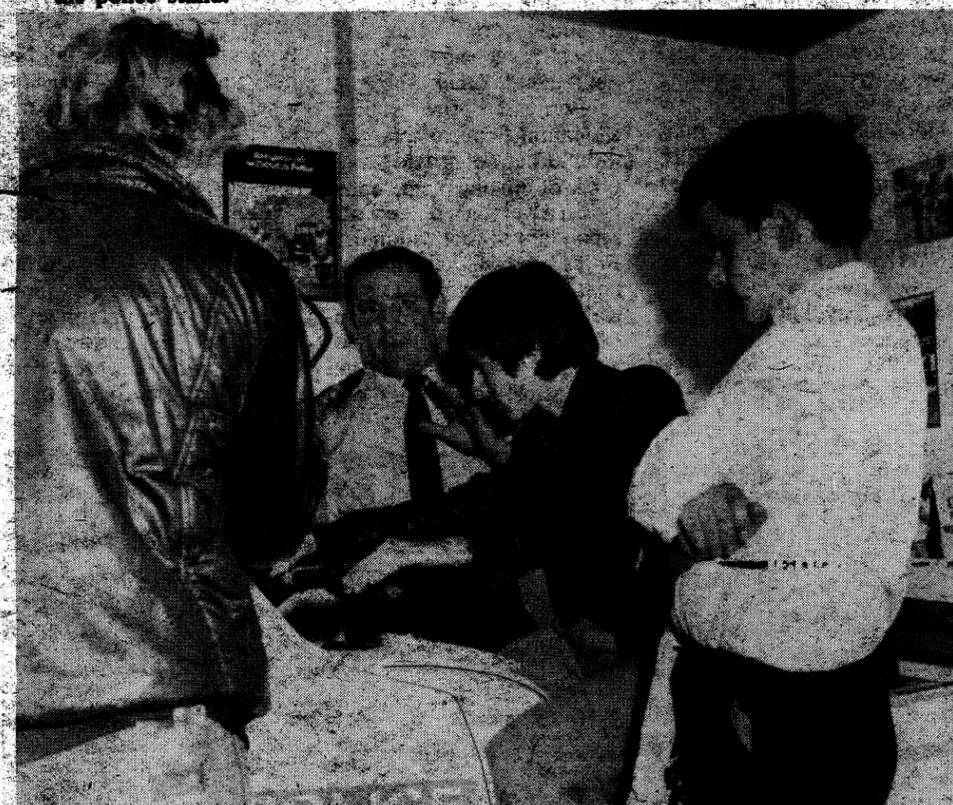
THE ONLY Police exhibit at this year's Essex Show, there being no police tent, was the Metropolitan Police recruiting vehicle, emblazoned "Join us in London."

Bob Good, force recruiting Sergeant wasn't going to let them get away with this so he arranged for two traffic patrol cars to be parked in front of the Metro van.

Business was good throughout the two days and especially when the wailer syren fitted to the car in our picture, was switched on.

Over to Southend where the Essex version of the national motor cycle show was held in late June. A small Police stand stressed safe riding and proper training.

No-one better, then, than Sergeant Mick Carter to talk to visitors. "They are mostly youngsters," he told The Law, "but older people are taking to two wheels because of the cost of petrol." He added that there had been great interest shown in the police stand.



## Award winner hands money back

A FOURTEEN year old boy was amongst the recipients of this year's County Standard Awards. Each year, after discussion with the police to find worthy cases, the County Standard Group of newspapers makes cash awards to people who give the greatest assistance to the police in the area of each of the newspapers in the group.

After a few words from Mr. Peter Laurie, Group News Editor, cheques were presented by the Chief Constable at Headquarters on Monday 9th July.

Fourteen year old Jonathan Smith of Coggeshall received the Braintree and Witham Times annual monetary award. About 1.30 p.m. on Sunday, 23rd July, 1978, Jonathan was walking past a scrap yard in Silver End which was closed, but which had several vehicles outside.

He saw a man put something into a Ford Escort car and then go over to a scrap Mercedes car and open the door. Jonathan told the man that the scrap yard was shut but he did not reply. He then noted down the number of the Ford Escort and later that day, told the owner of the yard what he had seen. The owner found that a radio had been stolen from the Mercedes, and reported the matter to the police who traced the man from the index number written down

by Jonathan.

When police visited the man, they found him in the act of fitting the stolen radio to his own car. He was dealt with by Witham Magistrates.

The Essex County Standard Award for the Colchester area was given to Mr. David May of Earls Colne. On 16th June, 1978, three suspects were being questioned by store detectives about offences of shoplifting at Tescos of Colchester. Suddenly, one person ran off along Head Street pursued by the store detective shouting, "Stop thief".

Mr. May intercepted the fugitive, tripping and grappling with him. In doing so, both men fell against a plate glass window and Mr. May sustained a serious injury to his hand. Despite this, he held on until the pursuers had reached them and were able to restrain the fugitive who was later arrested by police together with his accomplices.

All accused later admitted offences of theft and the man restrained by Mr. May admitted assaulting him.

Mr. Albert Mayhead of Witham received the Chelmsford Weekly News Award. At 11 p.m. on 14th July, 1977, four youths were refused admission to a

take-away restaurant which was about to close. Nearby, a disco was in progress which the youths were believed to have left somewhat the worse for drink.

The youths became angry at being refused admission and one threw a brick through the window of a nearby shop. Police attended and a melee developed between the youths and others from the Disco. Mr. Mayhead who is not a young man was passing, and immediately went to the aid of the officers who were under some pressure trying to restore order.

Particularly, he assisted by pulling one man from an officer being stangled across the bonnet of a police car. Eventually the situation was brought under control, and several youths were given custodial sentences.

The recipient of the East Essex Gazette award was Mr. Fredrick Vernon Cook of Frinton. About 11.30 a.m. on 19th September, 1978, Mr. Cook was at work when he saw a woman walking into the back of some shops on Connaught Avenue, Frinton. His attention was drawn to her because of her suspicious behaviour. He did not see her leave the back of the shops.

Later the same day, he again saw the woman in Upper Third Avenue, Frinton where she went to the back of one of the premises there. Mr. Cook knew that the occupier of the premises was not at home, so he decided to keep watch. After some five minutes, the woman had not emerged, so he decided to go to the back of the house.

There he saw that the window in the back door was open and the door was ajar. He returned home and phoned the police, but before they arrived, he saw the woman walk away from the house. He followed her in his car, and when he met an approaching police car, waved it down, pointing out the woman to the officer. She was arrested and later admitted burglary and theft of a handbag from Connaught Avenue.

In a nice gesture, Mr. Cook gave his cash award to the Chief Constable, for the Essex Police Benevolent Fund. Mr. Cook said, "I appreciate receiving the award from the press, but would like it to go to the Essex Police Benevolent Fund where it will do some good."

## Six pass promotion exam outright

PUT AT ITS WORST the passrate in this year's promotion examination to inspector was 7 1/2%, and not much better than other years. But this bald figure indicates 6 outright passes out of 80 candidates who sat the whole examination. The exam system is a little more complex than this and so there were another 31 part passes of one sort or another.

First, there were 26 candidates who sat only one paper, having dipped this single test last year. Of

these, 18 passed, almost 70%, and this made an overall total of 24 newly qualified personnel, 17 sergeants and 7 constables. And this total of 24 out of 106 candidates makes a slightly better looking percentage than 7 1/2%.

And in addition, another 13 candidates, having failed in only one paper, can avail themselves of the advantage of sitting just this one test in 1980. Of these 13, eight were constables.

## Constable among five honoured after rescue

AT a presentation ceremony earlier this summer at Rochford, District Council Chairman, Cllr. D. A. Ives, handed certificates to five people, involved in the rescue of a lad from a collapsed tunnel.

On the morning of Sunday, June 18, 1978, three young boys were playing in a disused sand pit at Rayleigh. They found a fox hole in the side of the pit wall and enlarged it by taking turns to crawl to the far end and scrape away sand. Eventually they increased the size and depth of the hole to some 3ft wide, 14ft in depth and 20ft below the surface. The tunnel they created was not straight but veered off at a sharp angle.

Mark Gibson, aged 13 years, had just crawled to

the far end of the tunnel when the other boys heard the sound of falling sand. His friend, Peter Bull, aged 13 years, entered the tunnel calling for Mark, but received no answer. He found the far end of the tunnel had almost filled with sand and realised Mark Gibson was underneath. More sand fell and Peter Bull himself was

forced to leave the tunnel.

At this time Geoffrey Crampton and Steven Bristow who were playing close by, realised what had happened. Geoffrey entered the tunnel first and commenced to clear away sand, using his bare hands. His friend Steven and an unknown man also took turns to enter the tunnel

behind Geoffrey, and all three worked vigorously to try and clear the blocked tunnel. Shortly afterwards a shovel was produced and this was also used.

After some ten minutes digging, Geoffrey Crampton located Mark Gibson under the sand at the blocked end of the tunnel by uncovering his

arm, neck and head. Steven Bristow and the man were in close attendance, still working to remove sand which was continuing to fall.

At this stage Constable Alan Gumm attended with another police officer and called Geoffrey Crampton out of the tunnel. Geoffrey explained the position and that he had verified that Mark Gibson was at the end of the tunnel. At this point two ambulancemen arrived, and with the Constable went immediately into the tunnel and started to dig away sand from the far end where Mark Gibson was trapped. They worked for some minutes but were forced out because of a heavy fall of sand. They returned to the tunnel and

between them cleared more sand from the tunnel until they uncovered Mark Gibson, who was not breathing.

An oxygen cylinder and mask were passed into the tunnel and eventually the boy began to breathe again.

Mark Gibson was trapped in the tunnel for between 20 and 30 minutes, and without doubt he would have suffocated and died but for the efforts of all concerned.



# PENSIONERS MEET IN BRIGHT SUNSHINE

DESPITE pushing their luck to the limit by moving from Thursday, when they have never suffered even so much as a cloudy day, the police pensioners assembled for their annual garden party in blazing sunshine on the first Friday in July.

Mind you, most of them displayed no evidence of being out in the sunshine for the first time this year, their tan making a marked contrast to the pallor of many of the serving officers who came along.

There were no displays this year, just music from the band, but many wouldn't have noticed them anyway — they had come to chat.

The Law was there with a camera and below are shown some of the smiling faces we met. How many do you know? Answers on page 8.



## Police Federation Ball

FRIDAY, 28th September, 1979

PROCEEDS in aid of Essex Police charities

**Lion & Lamb Banqueting Hall**  
**Duke Street, Chelmsford**

TICKETS £7 each, includes formal dinner and dancing until 1.30 a.m., through Federation Office, Headquarters, ext 398. COLLEAGUES of all ranks, retired and civilians, and their guests, welcome.



AS IF by kind permission of the Bandmaster, summer is here at last just in time for the annual garden parties at which the Essex Police Band play. As usual the Essex Police pensioners garden party on the 6th July had brilliant sunshine, but not all forces have been quite as lucky with their choice of dates and the weather. Saturday 24th June was the date chosen by Cambridgeshire Police for their Gala day at Huntingdon, not a wise choice at all, as all those who know who attended from Essex will be able to tell you. It rained, and it rained, and it rained. The grand parade was cancelled

and music from the bandstand was out of the question. There were several bands at the event, including the Metropolitan Police Band, a Pipe Band and a Jamaican Steel Band who were all packed off into various buildings and marquees to entertain the sheltering crowds: yet another event at which the Essex Police Band were denied a chance to march, but not to be beaten the Bandmaster arranged fine weather for the Ceremonial Passout Parade at Eynsham Hall on the 28th June. The band went to Eynsham the day before for rehearsals and an evening concert. Accommodation for the Band overnight was a bit of a problem, but it was sorted out when they decided to accommodate the ladies of the Band at Eynsham Hall and send the men packing. After knocking on a few doors I understand they found accommodation in the middle of a runway at Brise Norton, and at 2.00 a.m. an aeroplane came in one end of the building and out of the other — well that's what they told me, and apparently Bob Giles didn't hear a thing! Not to be put off by the men's overnight ordeal the band provided the music for the parade: we at last had the chance to march and make use of our Drum Major, Malcolm Hesler, and our newly

acquired bass drummer Gavin Steadman. Many favourable comments could be heard about the Essex Police Band after the parade, which was an all-round success. Our next marching event is the Metropolitan Police Gymkhana at Chigwell on Sunday 27th July when you are all welcome to come along and witness this amazing sight for yourself. For those of you that don't know what it is like to march in a band just stop and think. I am sure at least 90 per cent of readers will know what it is like to march, keeping in step, watching dressing, etc. Now add playing an instrument reading music and watching the drum major, that makes life just that little bit more difficult. On Monday 23rd July the Band are playing at the PAA European Shooting Championships which are being held at the College of Education, Dartford, Kent, in the presence of the Duke of Kent: provided for the second day is being provided by the Kent Police Band. Finally in this month's Bandnotes another word to all the hidden musicians in the Force: all are welcome at rehearsals on a Wednesday evening in HQ Assembly Hall starting at 6.30 p.m., please come along. Good listening.

## National Association of Retired Police Officers by Bert Brinkley

**PENSIONS Increases**  
INFORMATION is promulgated through the Public Service Pensioners Council from the Secretary of State for Social Services of the increases in public service pensions with effect from 12 November, 79. Those whose pensions were increased on 1 December, 1978 will receive w.e.f. 12 November, 1979 an increase of 16%, this percentage amounting to 11/12ths of the 17.5% which the Government estimates to be the rise in prices from November 1978 — November, 1979. Those pensioners who did not receive an increase on 1st December, 1978 (because they had not retired before 2 July, 1978) will receive w.e.f. 12 November, 1979 an increase calculated by multiplying the number of complete months of retirement by 1/12th of the 17.5% increase. The maximum period is

from 2 July, 1978 to 11 November, 1979, sixteen days and nine days, but bear in mind any odd period of sixteen days or more counts as a complete month. Less than 16 days will be rounded down. The Minister announced on 13 June at the same time as the above that the basic retirement pension will be increased in the week commencing 12 November, 1979, by 19.5% representing an increase of the above 17.5% estimate of the rise in prices plus a further increase to take account of the shortfall in the previous year's increase. The basic social security retirement pension is increased by the greater of the Government's forecast of the rise in earnings or prices and the Minister stated it was anticipated prices would rise faster than earnings during the period from November, 1978 to November, 1979. It must be borne in mind that police pensioners do not receive the increases awarded until they reach the age of 55 years.

**Bowls v. Regulars**  
A very enjoyable afternoon was spent on Lionmede Green when this fixture was fought out. I am unable to quote the exact scores but suffice it to say the 'Regulars' were on form resulting in a defeat for the pensioners for the second year in succession. However, everyone enjoyed the game which was followed by an excellent tea in the Staff Canteen, thanks to Mrs. Hehn and her Staff.

**Garden Party, 1979**  
Once again we were favoured with good weather and an equally good turnout. 600 pensioners and their wives enjoyed a very

pleasant afternoon and great credit and our grateful thanks are extended to the Committee and their band of helpers for the excellent arrangements made not only for the annual 'natter' but also the refreshments which I know were fully appreciated by all those attending.

**N.E.C. Meeting**  
This meeting was well attended at Southend by members of our three Branches, Ted Davison (Chairman J.B.B.) and Jim Rodgers (Secretary J.B.B.) Police Federation. Some interesting questions were raised and I think we all gained more knowledge of the work of the N.E.C. on our behalf. The Southend Branch and Ed Easlea (Secretary) are to be congratulated on the arrangements made for the welfare of the N.E.C. whilst at Southend and for the refreshments laid out after the meeting.

**Comrades Luncheon**  
The Committee decided to hold the annual luncheon on Wednesday 17 October, 1979 at the County Hotel, Chelmsford (Rainsford Road) on similar lines as last year. The cost per member attending will be £4.50 which will include table wines. The Licensed bar will also be available. Letters are being prepared and will be sent out shortly. It is hoped that immediately following the luncheon it will be possible to hold an extra-ordinary Meeting of the Friendly Society when the accounts and Actuary report for 1978 will be presented. By this means it is fully expected more members will attend than is normally the case. Will members please note that as from Weds. 11 July, 1979, my telephone number will be — Chelmsford (0245) 355750.

# Don't listen to rumour

THE FEDERATION Open Meeting for 1979 was something of a celebration and to mark this the gathering was held at Chelmsford's Lion and Lamb instead of at Police Headquarters.

As to what was being celebrated most of the fans, or audience as they are called at these events were

probably rather vague. There was talk of 150 years of modern policing, not too much talk to be sure, the occasional allusion to 60 years of the Federation, mentioned on one occasion, of ten years since the amalgamation of Southend and Essex which no-one mentioned at all, and of Edmund Davies and the new

rent allowance which were spoken of constantly. The assembled company knew where their priorities lay.

And J.B.B. Chairman, Ted Davidson knew where his priorities lay too. So he began by getting various V.I.P.'s on the platform jumping up and down as he introduced them one by one on the somewhat doubtful

grounds that force members might not know them.

He followed this googly, in cricket parlance, with a straight bouncer over the Chief's head, complaining of lack of consultation over general election arrangements.

Far from being intimidated the Chief hit the Chairman for six implying

that any policeman who couldn't arrange himself V.I.P. treatment when manning a polling booth was a disgrace to the force.

The Chief went on to say a word or two about rumours. Since his arrival in Essex he has found one of the more highly developed grapevines in the Police Service.

"Rumours are great said, "where would you without them." An paused wistfully thinking doubt, of where he like to be without rumours — in Essex instance.

"I'm not sure we force orders," he went "in fact, I don't think even need The Law.

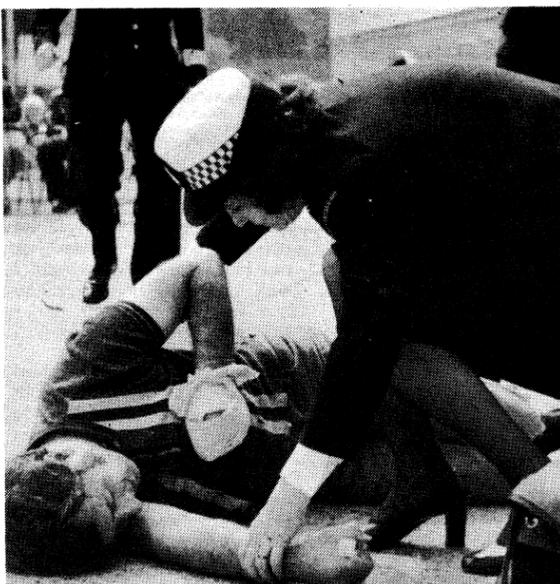


CONVERSATION piece caught during the reception before the meeting. In the foreground Jim Jardine, JCC Chairman, left, and George Sage, Essex constables' board secretary. Behind, Mr. W. Petherick, ACC, and Cllr. Norman Clarke, Deputy Chairman of the Police Authority, with Mr. M. Comrie, ACC at the rear.



GUESTS of the Federation, Mrs. Eileen Harrison of the House Office, Mr. Bill Austin, Finance Office and Mr. John Smith of the County Hall Salaries Department who received an ovation on the announcement that the new pay rates would be on the June cheque

## City gals come in threes



THERE was a touch of the ministering angels when the Special Constabularies of Essex, the City of London and K District Metro, met for the annual Neville Trophy competition at the Headquarters Training School.

The "patients" felt the feminine touch as first Shirley Redgewell from the City, left, then Linda Barnes of 'K' centre, and finally Rayleigh's Celia Hazlett got to grips with their injuries.

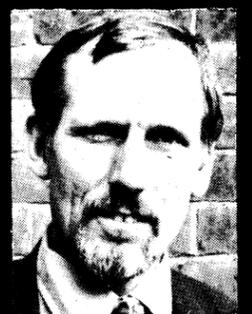
As well as an accident and the resulting first aid the contest includes drill and turnout, police law and the highway code.

In the end it was Shirley's team which won though it would be ungentle to suggest that this was because City ladies come in threes.

There were male Specials about as our picture shows but somehow they're just not the same.



### Federation Notes



by Jim Rodgers

#### Rent Allowance

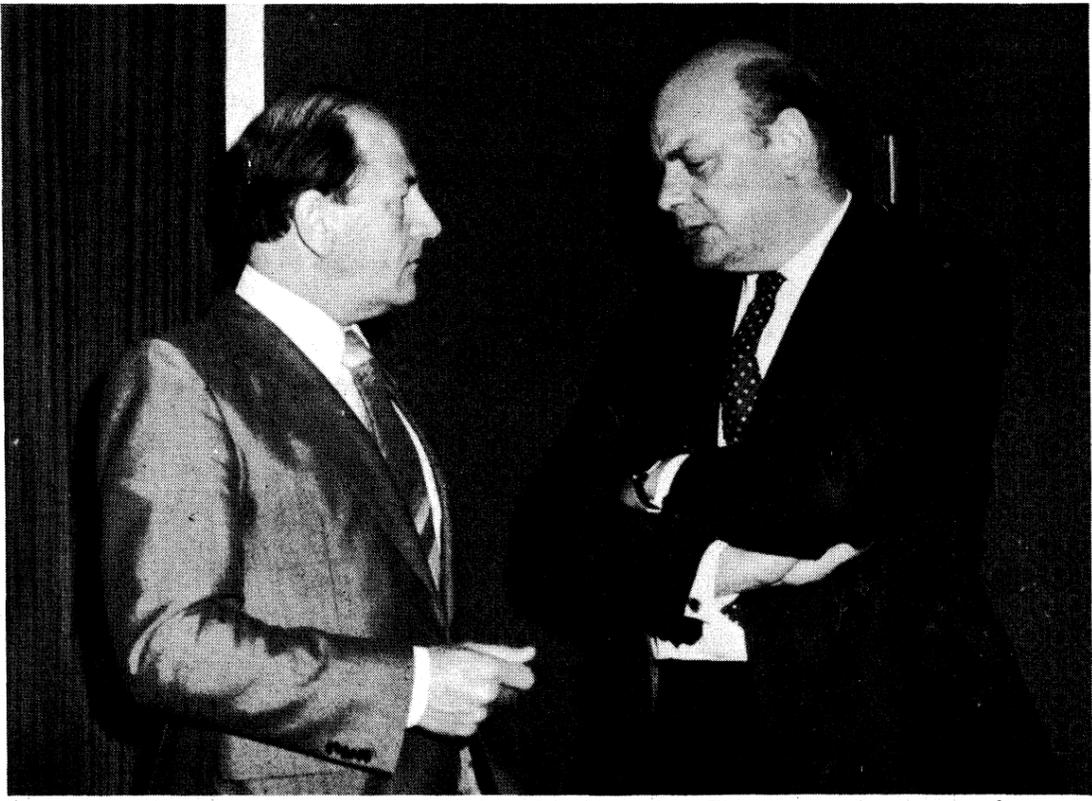
Home Office approval has been given for the force maximum limit rent allowance to be increased from £21.79 per week to £26.35 per week for all federated ranks, with proportionate increases for the other ranks of the Force. The resulting multiplier is 3.36, so that each will be able to calculate his new entitlement. Most officers have already submitted their Acc 3's showing new rates, and so finance department have been able to calculate most of the new rates already; these will be forwarded to County Hall within the next few days, and with their usual efficiency, we can expect it in our pay packets some time in August or September. If by an oversight you have not yet submitted your Acc 3's, the payment of the increase to you will be delayed.

#### Return of Premiums Insurance

I recently reported the changes in the Police Federation return of premium insurance, which on the one hand increased the maximum holding to seven units each worth £2,000 at a cost of £1 per month

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# ours said The Chief



JCC secretary Joe Martucci, left, with the Chief who later urged force members not to believe rumours.



AND from the conspiratorial expression caught on the Comrie countenance by the camera, the ACC was starting a rumour of which Bert Brinkley's sceptical expression shows disbelief. While Ted Davidson finds matters hilarious.

## —and started one about the Law

thereby went a long way towards starting the next rumour. But he asked the audience not to always believe parade room tales. Mr. Bunyard paid tribute to the flexibility of the Force and its ability to get things done, and after saying he was looking forward to the next 16 years in the county, sat down to warm applause. Councillor Norman Clarke from Southend spoke on behalf of the Police Authority and congratulated

the Federation on the conduct of pay negotiations. "Firm yet not bloody minded," was his view of the Federation attitude adding that he hoped Jim Jardine was not going to attack the Police Authority. Mr. Jardine nodded and was later as good as his work, castigating police authorities for not accepting in full the Edmund Davies recommendations. Jim's view was that the

pay award had done "quite a bit" to improve morale. On this particular evening the staff in the bar adjoining the meeting hall also did their bit towards raising the morale of the audience. Whether the passage into the hall of trays full of foaming pints had the same effect on the speakers in another matter. Jim has learned to lift a police audience whose reaction to "bring back hanging for the crime of murder" would only surprise

anyone who is startled by dark evenings in December. And having got them going with this topping idea he had Essex Police shouting approval of his call against, "Probation officers and social workers who bring their personal and political beliefs into their duties." With cash in the bank from the Edmund-Davies award Essex federationists were in a benign mood and even question time after the speeches was good natured.

This was followed by supper and an entertainment by Saffron Sound barbershop singers led by Chief Insp. Barry Devlin. Not everyone's cup of tea, or pint of beer as they say at the Lion and Lamb, but good singing for all that. A nice change from Headquarters and a good move from April — before the national conference — to June when decisions by delegates at Blackpool can be reported.

whilst on the other hand any officer of 45 years over from commencing or increasing his scheme. resulted in Jack Castle and Prosper scheme alternative for the Essex scheme, informing me that for an alternative scheme over 45 year olds to 'top insurance cover. Anyone please contact him his home telephone is Southend-on-Sea sounds a good idea.

Order forms are available from the Federation office now, just pick up the phone and ring Headquarters extension 398. Tickets are priced £7 each which covers a formal meal, dancing till 1.30 a.m. and the chance to meet and greet friends from all over the county.

**Disposal of Police Houses**  
The Standing Advisory Committee have been gathering evidence of schemes in operation in other force areas for the sale of police houses to police officers at reduced prices according to occupancy qualifications. The schemes have yet to be looked at and evaluated, but it is anticipated that the committee will make some recommendation to the Chief Constable that he should seek Police Authority approval to set a scheme in motion for this Force.

News of these deliberations have leaked out in such a way that officers are led to believe the scheme is imminent — this is not the case. We anticipate that it will take some months, possibly a year to properly decide on the criteria for the scheme. Even though we are studying several other schemes, from which ideas will be borrowed no doubt — we do not feel the subject is one which can be hurried. Nor do we feel that the Police Authority will be rushed into making a decision so far reaching in effect, as this one will be.

If all goes well, the scheme could be off the ground within eighteen months, but even then not all houses will be for immediate disposal. You will appreciate, that to flood a market with all our police houses would cause a cash availability problem for all. So some system of priorities will have to be devised, both with regard to which houses

## Three forces represented on first I.I. Course



MEMBERS of the first Essex course in the new series for newly promoted inspectors or those about to be made-up.

There will be four more courses this year, each lasting 5 weeks. The new course replaces a similar one at Bramshill.

Back row: Insp R. Anthony (Beds), Insp B.

Daymond (Essex), Insp P. Fairhead (Essex), Det Insp D. Wallace (City of London), Det Insp J. Kitchen (City), Insp M. West (Essex), Insp M. Cox (Beds), Insp A. Taplin (Essex).

Seated: Det Insp P. Dickens (City), Sgt R. Shéley (Essex), Insp P. Earl and A/Ch Insp K. Adams (Directing Staff) Det Insp M. Nethersole (Beds) and Det Sgt D. Smith (Essex).

line Advice  
oint Central Committee's sub-committee, have a plastic coated 'aide which will shortly be d to all ranks of the Federation, giving very advice on matters arising complaints against the internal discipline, and proceedings. These are t the uninitiated, and to persuade you to seek before taking any steps er. The aide memoire replace the advice you seek in each case. After all are ever alike are they? it be complaints from the discipline or crime — seek advice from your on representative — or office if he is not

tion Ball 1979  
will already have made a our diaries as far back as y that the Police on Ball will be held at the d Lamb banqueting hall y, 28th September, 1979. he time to start thinking e guests you will be along to it, and how cketts you will require.

are disposed of first, as well as which officers will be able to arrange finance for the purchase. This forewarning will give the occupants of police houses an opportunity to plan ahead. Don't forget that building societies advance money based on the borrower's status (financial as well as creditability) and a satisfactory survey of the property. Evidence of some attempt at raising the necessary

deposit will oft times assist in establishing financial status and creditability. The insurance broker, Derek Lidford, who has been so successful during the recent difficult spell in obtaining mortgages for members of the federated ranks, has a savings plan which guarantees a mortgage for any officer who saves for two years within the plan. Any officer interested

should contact him direct on Witham 515717.

### Second Time Buyers

Whilst on the subject of mortgages, it appears that owner occupiers who wish to sell and buy again are having difficulty in raising mortgages, this same broker has been able to help several officers over this hurdle in recent months.

### Contributions Increase

As mentioned in the last issue of The Law, the contributions will be increased with effect from 1st October, 1979, to 33 pence per week for police officers and to 15 pence per week for police cadets. New deduction forms will not be completed, but any officer who does not wish to contribute at the new rates, must notify me in writing.

# Athletes make it ten in a row at Oxford

1970

Relay record caps successful day

1979

THE GREATEST compliment the Force athletics secretary could receive came when the team arrived for the S.E. Region championships. "I suppose you've brought your usual steamroller," said his counterpart from Sussex.

The most consistent of all the sections of the Essex Police Sports Association, athletics, won through to their 10th successive team victory in the championships at Oxford on July 4th.



JAVELIN on the way to a 2nd place mark, delivered by Carol Fielding.



CLEARING 1.90m for a personal best and the high jump title, Simon Halford.



A SIGHT to gladden Essex hearts at the finish of the men's 100m with Essex stripes out-numbering the rest. From left, Vale, 3rd, Halford, 4th, Barrett, 1st, and Odell, 6th.

## Athletics

ALTHOUGH there were notable absentees from the team which contested an away fixture in the Southern League at Chelmsford on 23rd June, the team was almost as strong as it could have been.

At the end of the meeting the sprinters strung together a force record breaking sprint relay. All the baton changes went like a dream and Phil Barrett, last leg man, was able to ease in over the last 30 metres as he had a 400 metres leg to run in the longer relay afterwards.

Lead-off man in this best-ever squad was Simon Halford who had earlier

The only survivor of those ten years, or of the last championships on the Iffley Road track in 1971, was team captain John Hedgethorne, veteran of the party by about 20 years, who celebrated his re-appearance at Iffley Road, scene of the first four-minute mile in 1954 (in which he didn't take part) by grinding out a personal best time in the 3,000 metres walk, beating his previous best by four seconds. \*By coincidence, this was set at the Iffley Road championships eight years ago.

Alas, the team had, for Essex, a disjointed appearance. Instead of spanning all events and gathering points steadily throughout the afternoon, the Essex score was built up in fits and starts. In the end the accustomed victory was won and without those who chose not to come for various reasons.

The order of events had also been re-arranged, leaving the skills in which

Essex	141
Thames Valley	106
Hertfordshire	85
Sussex	78
Kent	71
Surrey	39
City of London	26
Hampshire	15
Bedfordshire	2

Essex are strong until the end of the afternoon. It was an hour before Essex had any points on the scoreboard at all.

### Drama

Dramatic events attended the relays which concluded the afternoon's sport. The Essex women's team (C. Wilkening, J. Johnson, E. Heath, S. Mullender) were suddenly shot into a ten-yard lead at the second change-over by a dreadful muddle in the Kent team. Miss Johnson held this to hand the baton to Mrs. Mullender still some ten yards up. But though she ran as if it was the devil behind her, Kent, anchored by Louise Hyder, individual 100 metres winner, just rolled up the deficit to win literally on the line.

This was followed by the men's medley where Alex Vowles ran a courageous first leg (800m) to hold the deficit down to about 30 yards. Chris Vale took back ten yards or so on his 200m leg and Chris Odell another five on his. But a glorious scuffle between him and Phil Barrett, anchor man at 400m, resulted in the heel of Barrett's right shoe being pulled off.

There was nothing to do

spent most of the afternoon winning the pole vault, losing the high jump only on countback, and winning the 400 metres hurdles.

No. 2 was Chris Vale who had his customary long-triple double win but narrowly lost the 100 metres.

No. 3 was Chris Odell, winner of the 110 metres hurdles and 'B' high jump.

New man in the team Andrew Thorpe from Brightlingsea started well with a win in the 'B' shot and 2nd with the hammer, an event he hadn't tried often before.

In the end, home team Chelmsford were too strong. Despite Police ability to win events points are lost because others cannot be contested at all.

Bert Wallace, team captain, of Wickford is keen to hear from anyone willing to turn out. Next fixture is at Cambridge on 28th July.

### POLICE RESULTS

100mts 2A C. Vale 12.1; 1B C. Odell 12.3; 200mts 2A C. Odell 25.5; 2B L. Perrott 24.9, 400mts 1A P. Barrett 51.8 (Force Rec.) 1B L. Perrott 53.6, 800mts 2A L. Perrott 2:07.3.  
5,000mts 4A S. Pearmain 17:57, 3,000mts chase 4A S. Pearmain 11:42.  
110mts hurdles 1A C. Odell 18.7, 400mts hurdles 1A C. Odell 18.7.  
4B A. King 77.4.  
High Jump 2A S. Halford 1.80; 1B C. Odell 1.65, Long 1A C. Vale 5.87; 2B D. Northcott 5.18, Triple 1A C. Vale 12.59; 2B A. Odell 10.79, Pole Vault 1A S. Halford 2.73; 2B A. Wallace 2.00.  
Shot 2A A. Wallace 11.11; 1B A. Thorpe 10.16, Discus 3A P. Barrett 24.62; 4B A. Odell 20.86, Javelin 1A A. Wallace 44.64; 2B A. Odell 33.02, Hammer 2A A. Wallace; 2B A. Sharpe 24.92.  
4 x 100 (S. Halford, C. Vale, C. Odell, P. Barrett) 46.0 (Force Rec.), 4 x 400 (A. Odell, S. Pearmain, L. Perrott, P. Barrett) 3:49.



STILL in one shoe after his winning anchor leg, Phil Barrett (400m) recovers with, left, Chris Odell (200), Alex Vowles (800) and, right, Chris Vale (200) who also won the victor ludorum award.

but kick the shoe off and run lop-sided, which he did to such effect that he not only made up the 15 yards deficit but won by a similar distance, clocking a force relay record in the process.

Phil had had a good afternoon, notching up a neat sprint double. He then asked to scratch from the 400 metres and the team captain, not out of any confidence in the eventual outcome, acceded, preferring to save his talents for the relay.

It was heartening to see Essex involved in a blanket finish of their own in the 100 metres, where Barrett won, with Vale 3rd, Simon Halford and Chris Odell all close behind.

The high jump was a triumph for Halford. He leaped to a new height of 1.90m, beat two former champions, colleague Tim Mildinhal, 3rd, and Faulkner of Kent, and went on to take 2nd place in the long jump.

Chris Vale's capture of the victor ludorum title was not the first time he had taken this honour. That he won it says much for his return to fitness since the force championships when he was run out of the 100 metres heats.

At Oxford he took the bronze at 100m and went on to win his speciality double at long and triple jumps — as well as 4th place in the high.

Tim Mildinhal, despite being somewhat below par, one felt, nevertheless only just missed the V.L. Cup which he has won previously. Bronzes at high jump, javelin and discus and a long jump 4th made up his points.

Essex were less dominant in women's events, perhaps than ever before, and yet the performances were as good as usual. The opposition was certainly stronger than in other years.

So Elaine Heath had to be content with a just



HAPPY after their narrow defeat in the women's relay, from left, Siobhan Mullender, Elaine Heath, Carol Wilkening and Jenny Johnson.

missed afternoon, being beaten for the bronze by the tiniest of margins in 100m, 200m and long jump. But she made no mistake in the javelin, winning this from colleague Carol Fielding.

Of course, the other teams will tell you that it is the walking that makes the difference. Essex have always entered these championships with a walking squad who can be sure of most of the points-scoring places, while other forces do not follow this particular discipline. And Essex duly extended this excuse for another year by taking the first three places.

And yet this precisely demonstrates the present problem. In the old days the walking squad would arrive with half-a-dozen walkers and look askance at anyone else who tried to get in the first six. Nowadays they concentrate on holding the first three places.

Other events are the same. Essex still has event winners in the same numbers as before. It is the back-up squad which is missing, the lads and girls who used to pick up — sometimes lucky — points which ensure victory.

### Winners and Essex places

100m Men 1st P. Barrett, 11.3; 3rd C. Vale, 11.7; 4th S. Halford, 11.7; 6th C. Odell, 12.1. 200mts 1st P. Barrett, 22.4; 5th C. Odell, 24.8.



HURDLING his way to steeplechase bronze, Steve Pearmain.

400mts 1st P. Baker, Sussex, 52.6, 800mts 1st P. Baker, Sussex, 2:01.8, 1500mts 1st P. Baker, Sussex, 4:10.8; 7th A. Vowles, 4:25.4; 10th M. Atkinson, 4:38.8.

5000mts 1st P. Bidmead, Sussex, 15:30; 8th S. Pearmain, 17:27.6; 12th M. Atkinson, 18:21. 3000mts Steeple 1st P. Newman, Thames Vly, 9:39.0; 3rd S. Pearmain, 10:48.2; 5th V. Murphy, 11:19.4. 3000mts Walk 1st M. Dunion, 13:47.4; 2nd D. Sheppard, 14:17.0; 3rd J. Hedgethorne, 14:17.6.

High Jump 1st S. Halford, 1.90; 3rd T. Mildinhal, 1.80; 4th C. Vale 1.75; 6th C. Odell, 1.75. Long 1st C. Vale, 6.45; 2nd S. Halford, 6.13; 5th T. Mildinhal, 5.96; 8th D. Northcott, 5.43. Triple 1st C. Vale, 12.93.

Women 100mts 1st L. Hyder, Kent, 13.2; 4th E. Heath, 13.6. 200mts 1st Bailes, Thames Vly, 27.6; 4th E. Heath, 29.0. 800mts 1st C. Harding, City, 2:33.6; 3rd S. Mullender, 2:43.9. Javelin 1st E. Heath, 31.94; 2nd C. Fielding, 30.02; 6th S. Mullender, 16.48. Long Jump 1st L. Hyder, Kent, 5.07; 5th E. Heath, 4.21; 6th J. Johnson, 4.10; 9th C. Wilkening, 3.75.

Relays Women 4 x 100 1st Kent, 55.1; 2nd Essex, 55.2. Mens Medley 1st Essex, 3:45.

Javelin 1st MacDonald Hay, Thames Vly, 49.52m; 3rd T. Mildinhal, 46.72; 11th A. Odell, 32.72. Discus 1st Long, Sussex, 34.74m; 3rd T. Mildinhal 33.06; 14th A. Odell, 19.30m. Shot: 1st Bennett, Thames Vly, 12.56m; 9th A. Thorpe, 9.88m.

# National Police sailing

THE 1979 national police sailing championships were staged by Essex at Thorpe Bay in mid-June and the event attracted a record 74 entries of whom only three failed to appear on the day.

Racing was extremely competitive there being many helmsmen present who are of national standard. But light winds on the first day made the going tricky though not for former champion Dan Glenn of Metro (Albacore), who notched up a win in each of the days 2 races to enter the second day in an almost unassailable position.

Indeed, he was assailed next day when John Burbeck (Albacore) beat him. But when all the mathematics had been worked out at great length and the handicaps decided it was Glenn who won, followed by Burbeck and, in 3rd place, Briggs of Northumbria (National 12).

Essex men sailed amongst the leaders throughout. Graham Richmond (Hornet) was well up though his handicap reduced him to 18th position overall at the end of 2 days.

Leading home waters helmsman was Ian Wright who is stationed at nearby Benfleet. Sailing his new Laser named Porridge, he took 10th place overall.

Ian retained the Commodore's Cup which he has held for the past 3 years, just reward for all the hard work he put in to stage the championships in Essex.

Prizes were presented by Mrs. Bunyard at the conclusion of two days pleasant sailing and keen competition.

## Tennis

ESSEX POLICE were hosts in June this year for the Regional P.A.A. Lawn Tennis Competition. Organised by the tennis section secretary Sergeant Stuart Bowman, Tilbury, the event took place at the Frinton Lawn Tennis Club.

After several first round wins, notably Len Harman, Chelmsford in the mens singles, Gail Brown, Corringham in the ladies singles, Pam George, Chelmsford and Gail Brown in the ladies doubles and Jerry Tuthill, H.Q. and John Virgo, Chelmsford, in the veterans doubles, the Essex team members were gradually eliminated.

The most successful pair of the day were Pam George and Gail Brown who reached the semi-finals of the ladies doubles, only to be beaten 6-3, 6-1, by Kent the eventual winners.

Chief Superintendent Dighton and Mrs. Dighton, Colchester Division attended in the afternoon to present the prizes.

## FORCE FOOTBALL TEAM

THE Force team commence training at 3 pm on Thursday 19th July at the Force Training School. This will continue on each Thursday until the start of the season.

The team has enjoyed a fair amount of success over the past season but there is still room for good players, if you are interested contact Insp Rhymes on Chelmsford 81056 or 69067.

Insp Rhymes is also looking for willing helpers on the sidelines. If you feel that you would like to become involved in the running of the Force Team please contact him for further information.

## Cricket

THE COUNTY team was engaged in a thrilling match against Herts Police in the P.A.A. competition which was played at High Roding village cricket ground on Thursday, June 21, 1979.

On a fine day Herts were put in to bat on a firm pitch and they scored 206 for 6 in their 40 overs. Herts opening batsman Fricker was given an early life and taking full advantage of this went on to score 62 runs. And he was well supported by his opening partner Wilson (13) and then by Owen who after Fricker's departure carried on to score 71 runs before being out in the latter overs of the innings.

With rain threatening and Essex needing just over five runs per over, a good start was essential and this was achieved, the first wicket falling at 28 when Croot was out for 12. But the second wicket partnership between David Latta, of Braintree, and Peter Blois, a very able supporting partner, really took off, Latta hitting 81 with Blois, 39, in a supporting role, the partnership putting on 96 runs before Latta was bowled. And this despite the fact that rain interrupted play for a good 30 minutes slowing down the outfield conditions.

In trying to keep up the high scoring rate Essex steadily lost wickets and

slipped from 122—2 to 158—6, but a final flourish from the tail-end batsmen carried the day in 39 overs.

HERTS	
Fricker, b Brown	62
Wilson, c Gammon b Blows	13
Owen b Wilkinson	71
Holton c & b Croot	0
Machen c Gammon b Croot	2
Croucher b Williams	1
Dermont not out	35
Dumpleton not out	15
Total (6 wkts., 40 overs)	206

Bowling: Johnson 0—39, Bendall, 0—48, Blows 1—34, Brown 1—29, Croot 2—23, Williams 1—2, Wilkinson 1—14

ESSEX	
Croot b Dermont	12
Latta b Wilson	81
Blois b Fricker	39
Stean c Croucher b Wilson	1
Wilkinson run out	13
Blows lbw Fricker	3
Gammon b Dumpleton	9
Williams c Croucher b Dumpleton	12
Brown not out	17
Johnson not out	8
Bendall, did not bat.	
Total (8 wkts., 39 overs)	208

IN OTHER matches this month Essex lost to Felsted School and 'C' Division, Metro. But they got the better of C.6 Dept, N.S.Y.

Against Cambridgeshire Police last week Greene took 6 for 57 in helping to limit the opposition to 175 for 8 dec.

Some fine fast batting enabled Essex to surpass this score with only one ball of the match remaining. Six runs were needed off the last 5 balls which Blows and Smart scored.

Ian Smart was the most successful batsman, carrying his bat for 56 to follow his 53 against Felsted the week before. He was well supported by Latta 34, Gamman 33, Greene 21 and Croot 17.

## I.P.A. notes

FROM Harlow, I hear that this years garden party was a huge success, with over 100 people attending, and the weather behaved itself. A profit was made which will help to entertain the party of Dutch members who have confirmed that they will be visiting Harlow in October this year.

Harlow have also confirmed



WINNER of the baton for the best all round student at Eynsham Hall district police training centre on the last course, Constable Bob Warwick. Bob, who is 22, worked as a driver for the County Council before joining the Force and prior to this was in the army where he was employed as a medical clerk in R.A.M.C.



ANOTHER big influx of recruits passed through Training School earlier this month on their way to divisions. They included the Eynsham Hall prize winner for the best all round student.

Front from left: R. Warwick, formerly a driver, posted to Chelmsford; W. Lang, Civil Engineer, Harlow; L. Harvey, unemployed, Basildon; J. Fisher, clerical assistant, Rayleigh; J. Diment, clerk, Leigh; K. Webb, clerk, Southend; D. Farley, social worker, Westcliff; T. Bradbrook, social worker, Chelmsford.

Second row: D. Wakeling, bus driver, Epping; E. Jude, stock controller, Westcliff; S. Tuckerman, telephone engineer, Basildon; A. Welham, bank, Harlow; G. Carter, mechanic, Grays; J. English, foreman, Canvey; K. Bartlett, engineer, Chelmsford; R. Greenfield, engineer, Westcliff.

Third row: R. Lay, accounts assistant, Maldon; A. Weston, Strathclyde Police, Basildon; P. Mellon, rep., Rayleigh; S. Waller, paint chemist, Braintree; G. Dockerill, worked at HQ, Canvey; N. Ingram, accounts trainee, Chelmsford; M. Ornellas, telephone engineer, Clacton; G. Bull, slaughterman, Braintree.

Back row from left: N. Lack, salesman, Leigh; W. Chaplin, engineer, Maldon; J. Cousins, shop manager, Ongar; R. Luke, shop manager, Chelmsford; P. Fidler, civil servant, Epping; C. Binks, MOD Police, Southend; N. Williamson, fingerprints clerk, Saffron Walden; P. Sarling, car sprayer, Harlow; J. Drew, R.M.P., Colchester; M. Clark, army, Chelmsford; M. Page, clerk, Epping.

## Walking

GOOD NEWS for one member of the walking squad last week. Mike Dunion, whose come-back began only in May, was in the Scottish team against Wales at Cwm Bran, the match being contested last Saturday.

This was just reward for Mike's efforts, 8th in the National 20kms, 6th in the Essex event of the same distance with his times showing that gradual reduction needed to provide encouragement to the aspiring athlete.

Good news too, for Pete Ryan who made something of a breakthrough in the National 35kms championship at Leicester on 16th June. His 6th place was the highest position he has taken in a national event and he must now be hopeful of achieving a selection of some sort this summer at his better distance, the longer 50kms.

Not just the younger walkers have found the summer's warmth agreeable. In the course of helping Essex to a 1-2-3 in the Regional 3000mts championship John Hedgethorpe recorded his fastest ever time for the distance and had Denis Sheppard looking over his shoulder. The Dunion-Sheppard-Hedgethorpe trio has now taken the three regional plaques for the last 3 years.

The same three took 5th, 8th and 13th places in the Essex 3000m championship at Chelmsford in June. The front of

# LEW MINSHALL

MEMBERS of the Force were sad to learn of the death of former Superintendent, Scenes of Crime, Lew Minshall last month. He was 63 years old and leaves a widow Ethel.

Lew's health had not been too good in the latter part of his service in Essex which ended with his retirement with 38 years service in November 1976. His death was from cancer.

Mr. Minshall came to this force from Lancashire in 1964 to take charge of Scenes of Crime Department and on his retirement moved back to Lancashire.

Several members of Essex Police attended the funeral.

the field was of a high class, though there were gaps towards the rear.

Sheppard took himself off to Luxemburg the following weekend where the heat got at him and he had to retire from a 50kms race. Meanwhile over at Basildon the rest of the squad took on 15kms, where Dunion was again in contention at the front, eventually finishing 6th.

Essex 20kms: Hornchurch: 10.6.79. 6th M. Dunion, 97.41; 7th P. Ryan 98.14; 11th D. Sheppard 103.39; 21st J. Hedgethorpe 112.39.

National 35kms: Leicester: 16.6.79. 6th P. Ryan, 2.57.35.

Essex 3000m: Chelmsford: 20.6.79. 5th M. Dunion, 13.24; 8th D. Sheppard 13.58; 13th J. Hedgethorpe 15.04.

Basildon 15kms: 24.6.79. 6th M. Dunion 73.14; 17th J. Hedgethorpe 81.34.

General 20kms: 14.7.79. P. Ryan 99.18.

## Farewell

LES KILL wishes to be remembered to all his colleagues in past Romford days. He is retiring in September and there is to be a farewell 'do' at the Railway Hotel, Hornchurch, at 8 p.m. on 24th August. Former colleagues will be most welcome.

## Golf

THE Society's Spring Meeting at Canons Brook, Harlow was held on May 9. The weather was ideal and 29 members competed. Two guests also played. Although the greens were rather bumpy an enjoyable day was had by all — especially the prizewinners.

Winner of the Vic Brooker Trophy was Alec Mackman, net 71, with Bob Hayes, 73, runner-up; individual Stableford (PM) Bryn Cattel, 38 pts., runner-up John Jacobs, 37 pts.; best all-day scratch, Steve Bardwell, 173; best all-day handicap, Fred Faulkner 142; guests prize, all-day handicap, Mr. D. Kemie.

The Deputy Chief Constable Mr. Barry Price, Vice President, joined the Society for the day and kindly presented the prizes. He looks forward to the Society growing from strength to strength. So come on you golfers — join up!

The Summer Meeting was held at Canons Brook on Friday, June 29 where 26 members and three guests competed. The weather once again was kind to us and competition results for the day were as follows:

Scratch winner with a gross score of 83, Rod Booth; runner-up Peter Rouse, 85; AM handicap Keith Southgate, net 75; Vice-President's Cup (better ball Stableford pairs, Peter Manterfield/Pete Donoven, 40 pts.; runners-up Alan Frons/Jim Watson, 36; guests AM Handicap, Fred Laws, net 73; PM individual Stableford, Martin Barry, 30 pts.

The Society's Autumn Meeting will be held at Canons Brook, Harlow on September 26, followed by the Annual General Meeting. Society ties will be on sale on the day at £2.00 each.

Do come and join us — new members always welcome, says Bob Hayes (Chelmsford Town Sergeant), Secretary of PEGS.

## Seaxes

SEAXES members have taken part in two Autotests in recent weeks, the first being held at East Hanningfield, on 17 June and the second at Maldon as part of the Festival of Sport on 24 June.

The first event was held on farm land, which although reasonably even was on an incline. Rain prior to the start made the going very slippery and coming up the hill was difficult if not impossible in a series of straightforward speed tests with no reversing. Seaxes results were: Tony Campen 7th and Phil Knight 9th in their Mini in the class for cars up to 1000 cc. Ian Weatherley was placed third driving a Triumph 1300, and Paul Hambleton finishing fourth in his Cortina 1300. This was in the class for cars up to 1600cc.

The Maldon event was held on the Marine Parade, again on grass, but this very bumpy, several cars managing to get at least two wheels off the ground, which was very slippery due to rain showers during the day. Seaxes results were: Phil Knight fourth and Tony Campen fifth once again driving their Mini. Ian Weatherley was placed third in his class, and a welcome newcomer to the scene, Christine Pickett finished seventh in her class driving her Triumph 1500.

The Lancia Pointer Stage Rally took place overnight on Saturday and Sunday 7-8 July. Twelve members

Continued on Page 8

## Press relations

IN ONE direction the recent overtime restriction has achieved more than did a lengthy memorandum from the Chief several months ago.

Setting up the press office to counteract a reluctance in certain quarters of the Force to provide the press with information, the Chief's memo had no marked effect until recently, when policemen were suddenly much less reticent.

Hard upon the announcement of overtime restrictions came calls by journalists to the press office asking for confirmation of all sorts of facts and figures which were accurate enough to have come from only one source.

Policemen's wives again, we were told in one divisional C.I.D. office, where the assembled rank and file were of the opinion that the job cannot be done in ordinary hours.

They will just have to save time by not talking to the press.

## Not worth the bother

CONCERN expressed earlier this year by Chief Officers at low pass rates in promotion examinations will hardly have been dispelled by the percentages arising from the 1979 examination to inspector. To be sure another twenty four men are now qualified to this level, and as seventeen of these were sergeants this number will be added to the pool available for promotion. But three quarters of the twenty four had taken two years to pass the examination and in 1979 only six passed outright.

Perhaps this all adds weight to what we said before:

that eroding rank differentials makes working for promotion not worthwhile. Something else we noted. Not one woman was involved in either full or part-pass lists. Now there's food for thought.

## Encourage immorality

"THE Police ordered my husband to spend the night alone with another woman," writes a lady plaintively in a daily newspaper. "This happens quite often. He picked her up in the car about 9.15 p.m. and about 1 a.m. they stopped for a meal. It was a quiet night . . . but by morning they were ready for bed. Thank goodness each to their own," the lady writes.

"Equality of the sexes is all very well, but do you think the Police are encouraging immorality when they place a young W.p.c. on the police car during night duty — or do they think these men and women are inhuman?"

Of course one would only be encouraging immorality if the policewoman — or man for that matter — were already immoral. And we all know how unlikely this is. As to whether police officers are inhuman, this is another matter but one on which certain sections of society have no doubt.

This column wonders if police officers could succumb to temptation placed in their way in so obvious a manner. And anyway, not all area car drivers are married — some are even women.

## Telling the difference

WHEN an area car crew accompanied by a detective visited a Colchester mental hospital recently the uniformed officers engaged the receptionist in

conversation while the plain clothes man hovered in the background.

"I don't want to talk to you policeman," the receptionist told them, "I want to talk to this patient," indicating the detective.

Now we know he was a real detective, but was she a real receptionist? You can never tell these days.

## Rumours are great

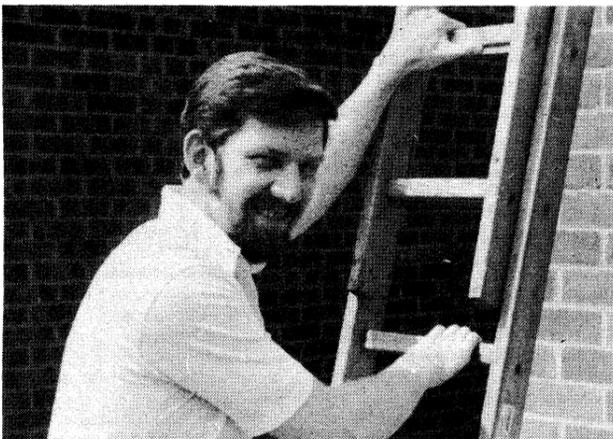
I AM NOT SURE we need The Law the Chief Constable said recently. Fortunately he was talking about rumours so we had no need to feel undermined. Having remarked that Essex must have the best grapevine in the Police Service he went on to doubt the necessity of Force Orders. "Rumours are great, where would we be without them," he said, "but they shouldn't always be believed."

## A great rumour

SO HERE is a rumour to be going on with. It was passed to us in a headquarters corridor, and goes, "The force will soon be divided into cycle beat north, cycle beat south, and C.S.B." The evidence apparently includes the petrol shortage and the page one story about school liaison with another eight hundred police officers on C.B.S. work.

How long, goes the story, will they just pop in to the schools? How soon will they be shown on the staff duty list, have an office with a couch for their customers, and little time for anything else?

Of course, we do not believe such tales though a senior officer who was passing at the time did not deny the story but just laughed — could it have been incredulity?



# 84 enter ideas scheme

EIGHTY-FOUR ideas were submitted this year under the Force Suggestion Scheme introduced in 1977. Eighteen were accepted or adopted and on 22nd June, a panel sitting at Headquarters consisting of the Deputy Chief Constable, Chief Superintendent W. Gray, Superintendents Association, P.S. J.A. Rodgers, Police Federation, and Mrs. B.M. Bryne, N.A.L.G.O. representative, allocated eleven awards.

P.C. P.J. Hesketh of Ongar was awarded £50 for an alteration to his police house which remedied a design fault, and has now been adopted for similar houses on a County-wide basis.

Mr. R. L. Weeds, H.Q. Registry, was awarded £25 for his idea that laminated permits be introduced to prevent wear and tear, and provide uniformity. Inspector G. H. Steele, Clacton was also awarded £25 for designing an alteration to fixed

penalty forms that would save expense and time in administration.

£20 was received by P.S. R.G. Ward, Chelmsford, for his suggestion enabling driving licence details to be recorded correctly.

P.C. M. Barry of Colchester and P.C. R.H. Bell, Colchester were each awarded £15 for amendments to stop check forms.

Five £10 awards were made to the following. P.C. S.G. Day, Traffic for suggesting the use of

Form H.O.R.T.2 as a witness statement, to P.C. 422 Fussell, Harlow for incorporating details of driving endorsements into the Aide Memoire, to Inspector D.F. Hudson, Southend for suggesting a minor alteration to the form used for drink driving procedures, P.S. F. Feather, Rayleigh who suggested a central pool of cine projectors, and P.C. P.J.E. Hook, Clacton who recommended that a calendar on statement forms would facilitate witness availability for court.



## A past good season

Dear Sir,  
I was pleased to see in the last month's issue of The Law the Force Football Team having a successful season.

1958 was also a good season. Here is a photograph of the Force Team winning the Final of The Bedfordshire Challenge Cup.

We won with ten men. In those days substitutes were not allowed and footballs had laces.

Several of us are still serving, how many do the readers recognise?

Inspector B. WILLIAMS  
Emergency Planning Officer  
Planning Officer



Continued from Page 7.

accepted the invitation from the Sporting Car Club of Norfolk to act as marshals at two separate stages of this prestigious event, one of the main rallies to come to East Anglia. Marshalling at Hethel and Sennowe Park proved to be both exciting and entertaining. Of 120 starters, 95 reached Hethel, a stage in the early hours of Sunday, but only 70 remained for the lunch time stage at the park. A memorable day for those who took the time and trouble to turn out.

Just to remind you, the Pram Race takes place on Friday, August 3, and will be followed by a disco at the Training School on Friday, August 31. Pram Race from Tony Campen or Phil Knight at the garage. Tickets for the disco from John Hart, HQ Traffic. A barbecue will be held at the Training School on Friday, August 31 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Again, contact John Hart for tickets.

Marshals, as always, are needed for both the Zero Six Stages Rally, to be held on August 26 and the Essex Stages Rally on September 9. Contact Tony Campen if you feel you can assist on these two local events.

Wickford Auto Club are to promote yet another autotest on September 9. Full details have not yet been finalised, but entries from Seaxes are invited, so if you are interested, contact Tony Campen nearer the date.

decision might not take the precaution of considering the effect this has upon their Mortgage Protection insurance. Therefore, ultimately they could find themselves with no protection and still a sizeable repayment due.

I would advise any officers using the Police Mutual Assurance Society claims to utilise their free advisory service. The cost of a letter may save considerable difficulty later.

Yours faithfully  
W. J. GRAY  
Chief Superintendent  
Authorised Officer

Police Mutual  
Assurance Society

## Out of touch

Dear Sir,  
After reading the article in the LAW concerning the return to the Essex Police of P.C. Mick Tatum, it has struck us that perhaps he is not the only person who has need to catch up on recent legislation. Being out in the wilderness of Tilbury it is not uncommon that some legislation escapes our notice. Indeed, it wasn't until recently that a member of our station discovered that the Road Safety Act had been replaced by the Road Traffic Act 1972.

In view of this, I would ask that perhaps details of the changes in the Theft Act of 1968 could be included in your paper in brief form, as we have not yet received details of the new Act mentioned in your article, The Theft Act 1969.

Yours faithfully  
G. A. MUIR  
Det. Con. 1213

C.I.D. Office,  
Tilbury Police Station,  
Civic Square,  
Tilbury.

NOW it's all very well for Mr. Muir to poke fun at us poor old boys at Headquarters all because of a misprint, but whereas he has never had to deal with the Larceny Act,

certainly the 1861 edition, we habitues of the Headquarters scene have never dealt with theft.

Down at Tilbury in the good old days one was never concerned about "some legislation" escaping notice; the only worry being to keep up with the Ways and Means Act, the provisions of which changed daily according to circumstances. — Ed.

## Pensioners' picture check

PENSIONERS I.D. parade: top row, left to right; Fox, Williams, Barningham, Watson. Second row: Pink, Jordan, Clarke, Ambrose, Oakley, Drage. Third row: Hovey, Miss Butler, Bloodworth, Dyson, James, Snowling. Bottom: Burgess, Gray, Kemp, Harvey, Storrar, Wheatland.

# The Law

H.Q. phone extensions  
374 and 375

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