

The Law



The Newspaper of
the Essex Police

March 1981 No. 132

HAIL AND FAREWELL

**AVON CALLED —
FOR NEW
PERSONNEL CHIEF**



APPOINTED to fill the vacancy as Assistant Chief Constable (Personnel) caused by the retirement of Mr Petherick and the change in responsibilities of Mr Comrie, is Mr Michael Clarke, at present Chief Superintendent in charge of a Division in Bristol, part of the Avon and Somerset Constabulary. The appointment is subject to approval by the Home Office and is not expected to take place until May.

Mr Clarke, aged 43, has a long CID background and is interested in sport of all kinds. He is married with a son and two daughters.

**ACC MR PETHERICK
CALLS IT A DAY
—all 15,500 of them!**

WHAT is there left to be said about Assistant Chief Constable (Operations), Bill Petherick, who retired this month after more than 42 years service in the Essex Police. He joined in 1938 at the time of the Munich crisis.

Stationed in the early years at Grays and Tilbury (where else?), he was called up into the army during the war and was commissioned in the Essex Regiment, being involved with the training of Canadian and Dutch troops at the No 1 Battle School.

Mr Petherick's police service was carried out virtually entirely in the Southern part of the County, rising through the ranks to become Divisional Commander at Grays in 1967 and then to Assistant Chief Constable in 1971. He was awarded the Queen's Police Medal in 1973.

Since becoming Head of Operations, he has of course been heavily involved in every major incident, from murders to aircraft hi-jacks, but says that one of his most satisfying memories is the clearing-up of the recent murder of a little boy in Harlow.

A bungalow at Point Clear, near Clacton, has been the Petherick home for a number of years and everyone will wish "the Guv'nor" and his wife many years of good health and happy retirement.



**NEW
EDITOR
FOR
THE
LAW
TAKES
OVER
FOR THE
APRIL
ISSUE**

COUNTYWIDE MOVES AND PROMOTIONS

Numerous promotions and moves have been announced in the last month. The more senior of these are detailed on page 3



FAREWELL functions for the retirement of Mr Petherick have been held at venues all over the County during the past few weeks. Typical of these was in Clacton Division where a gift of a table lighter was presented by the Divisional Commander, Ch Supt Long. Senior officers of Clacton Division and their wives are pictured above with Mr and Mrs Petherick.

National Association of Retired Police Officers by Bert Brinkley

Bowls — Pensioners v Regular Police

This fixture for Thursday 9 July 1981, 3pm, four rinks, will be staged at the Headquarters Green. The change of venue from Lionmede has been made as the result of increased fees for hiring Municipal Greens in the Borough to 50p per hour. As the result of good work by the groundsman, the HQ green should be in good shape and there are ample parking facilities. NARPO will provide the tea. Names please to: Fred Clark, 71 Wainwright Avenue, Hutton, Brentwood Tel. 94-218777.

Force Benevolent Fund

It has been stressed many times that it was felt that more pensioners, particularly widows, would appreciate some assistance from the Fund. It seems that people are reluctant to make a claim. I would like to impress upon all pensioners that the Fund is not a charity and no means test is applied. It is there to provide help to those most in need and only the Chief Constable and Welfare Officer are aware of the identity of recipients of cash assistance. Please, if any of you are experiencing hardship or know of a pensioner who is, let the Force Welfare Officer know or if you prefer let me know and I will see that it gets to the right quarter.

Chelmsford Branch AGM

The AGM will be held on Saturday 9th May 1981, in the Staff Canteen Police Headquarters at 1030 hours. Coffee and biscuits will be served from 1000 hours. Agendas for the meeting will be posted during April together with the Spring Bulletins.

We hope to see some lady members at the meeting and anyone who is desirous of being elected to a position on the committee.

From 'The Law' and the 'Police Magazine' it is noted that there are a number of new retirements and the Association would welcome these people to become members.

If any member is on holiday in Southport on Friday 11th September next they will be welcome to attend the Annual Conference which is being held there at the Floral Hall.

JOINING THE PENSIONERS RANKS THIS MONTH



RETIRED recently after more than twenty-eight years' service is Inspector Ronald Turner. Ron, who has spent all his service within the confines of the old Southend Borough Force spent twelve years in the CID before being promoted to Uniform Inspector. Of his plans for the future Ron is most adamant. His priorities will be to enjoy himself, travel

and get stuck into the gardening. He and his wife Doreen have started in fine style by just having returned from a trip to Hawaii and future trips planned are to the USA and the Far East. They will at least be able to keep in touch with the news around the Force as Doreen plans to keep on her job in the Prosecutions Department at Southend Police Station.



IF ONLY he could have held on for another five days, Supt Bill Brown would have held the title of "father of the Force" after the retirement of ACC Mr Petherick! However, after more than 40 years' service in Southend Borough and then the Essex Police, he deserves a change of lifestyle and intends getting at his books to become a student.

His main aim over the next three years will be to study for a degree in Social Sciences from the Open University, but following closely in priority will be concentration on his other interest, the Sea Cadet Corps. Bill has been connected with the Sea Cadets for more than 43 years, holds the rank of Lieutenant in the Southend unit, and is also involved from a national angle.

With his family close at hand, Bill will remain living in Rochford and his advice to serving officers is, "Don't take it too seriously, and when you stop enjoying it — get out."



'BACK to the drawing board' will be the call for Pc Alan Pursey as he retires from Stanway Traffic after 25 years in the Force, 19 of which have been with the Traffic Division. Alan has been renowned for his meticulous presentations of plans for all kinds of incidents and has produced exhibits for about 35 serious crimes over the last few years.

Now he intends to enter the design field on his own account, and will remain living in Colchester. He has

made a start in his new venture by producing a drawing of the Police College, Bramshill, which is being transferred on to metal and hopefully will be produced commercially. Alan has promised that if this venture comes to fruition, details will be notified for inclusion in a future edition of this newspaper.

In the early years of 'The Law', Alan was a regular contributor of cartoons under the pen name of 'Nala', so perhaps we may now see further examples of his work and humour.

LUCY CELEBRATES IN STYLE



Mrs Lucy Chapman is presented with her bouquet by Inspector Pat Byford whilst Ralph Chapman 'supervises'.

CELEBRATING her 100th birthday this month Mrs Lucy Chapman, widow of an Essex police officer, had her 'young' son Ralph, himself one of our pensioners, to help her with the celebrations.

Mrs Chapman's late husband retired from the Essex Police in 1928 after serving for 26 years and

died in 1971. Son, Ralph, retired in 1967 having been the Inspector at Halstead for the last 21 years of his service.

At her birthday celebrations at 'Singholme', Walton-on-Naze, a bouquet was presented to Mrs Chapman by Inspector Pat Byford of Clacton Division and the Force

Welfare Officer, Charles Howlett, on behalf of the force.

A telegram from The Queen, dozens of cards and many bunches of flowers, were all taken in her stride by a very alert and obviously delighted lady who, as the picture shows, could easily be taken for a mere youngster of about 75!



AFTER NEARLY 29 years' service, all of it spent in the original Brentwood Division, Bill Simpson has retired to take up a position as Bailiff with the Brentwood District Council. Previously in the merchant service, then a member of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, Bill has recently been a familiar figure on Brentwood High

Street where he has been, in his own words, "getting back to real coppersing."

Outdoor shooting, swimming, and home brewing are Bill's hobbies and he is looking forward to being able to spend more time developing and expanding his already considerable knowledge and expertise with home made wines.

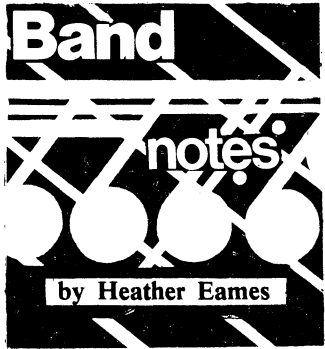
Force lottery

RESULT of the draw held at Colchester on Saturday, February 28, 1981.

1st prize Det Chief Insp F. Stannard, Grays, £1,062.66; 2nd prize Wpc J. E. Edwards, Chelmsford Traffic, £531.33; 3rd prize Pc R. Gray, Stansted, £265.66; 4th prize Ds A. Stamp, Southend, £132.83.

Consolation prizes at £26.56 each — Ds L. Weavers, Harlow; Pc R. Parker, HQ I/R; Wpc C. Harrop, Colchester; Dc P. Slegg, Witham; Ps J. Brennan, Clacton.

ESSEX POLICE BAND HOST A WEEKEND OF MUSIC



OVER the weekend of 6th to 8th March, the Essex Police Band were very pleased to present two concerts combined with the Royal Ulster Constabulary Male Voice Choir, under their conductor Charles Black, along with two soloists from their ladies' choir, Irene Thompson and Margaret Sturdy.

As the choir were only visiting for the weekend, rehearsal time was limited, and hampered somewhat by mechanical failures in transport, but the result was two well received concerts played to capacity audiences in Chelmsford and Colchester.

The two concerts were of similar programme, with guest conductor Major Mick Lane of Her Majesty's Irish Guards conducting Saturday's concert at the Colchester Institute. On this occasion the Essex Police Band and the RUC Choir were joined by the Suffolk Police Choir. Friday's concert was conducted by our own conductor, Geoffrey Broom.

Several items on the programme were combined Band and Choir, both concerts opening with Sullivan's very regal "March of the Peers" from Iolanthe and also included "Speed Your Journey" from Nebucco, "The Holy City" and "Land of Hope and Glory."

Both Choir and Band showed off their skills in separate items, and the Essex Police Band performed one of their most ambitious pieces to date, Friedman's Slavonic Rhapsody No 2; many hours' practice from an amateur band well rewarded by the audience. Also on the programme was the ever popular Post Horn Gallop with soloist Geoffrey Broom.

After both concerts, the band and choir were guests at Chelmsford and Colchester Police stations respectively, where well-earned "light refreshment" was available, by kind co-operation of the Divisional Commanders.

On the Sunday, the last day of the Choir's visit to Essex, there was no arranged concert, instead, a lunch held at Headquarters for the Choir, Band members, wives and husbands, at which the Chief Constable and Mrs Bunyard and the ex-Chief Constable of the RUC and his wife, Sir Kenneth and



Band and Choir in concert at Chelmsford. Geoff Broom wields the baton and attention is complete.



The Chief Constable receives his tie from the R.U.C.

Mrs Newman were guests. As I mentioned, there was no organised concert, and it was a job to keep the Choir from singing all the time, but a compromise was reached combining other activities, and they looked quite at home at one end of Headquarters bar.

The meal itself was a credit to the Headquarters' Canteen and I know I can say without exception that we all found it a most enjoyable affair, as was the whole weekend.

I think it was quite apparent that the Choir enjoyed themselves, and they have expressed a wish for the Essex Police Band to make a return visit to Ulster, perhaps early next year, a wish that the Band hopes very much will be fulfilled.

Finally on this visit, I



Sir Kenneth Newman speaks during the luncheon at Headquarters at the conclusion of the visit.

GRAYS CID DONATE TO CHARITY

NICE gesture on behalf of Grays CID was a donation to the Royal Ulster Constabulary Benevolent Fund, the result of a Social Evening held at Grays Police Station.

Chief Supt Bird handed over a cheque for the sum of £82 to Mr William Meharg, Assistant Chief Constable and President of the Fund, when parched throats were being lubricated at Chelmsford Police Station's bar after the first of the two weekend concerts.

would like to express thanks, on behalf of the Band to our own Chief Constable and the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary for allowing the visit to take place, and to all the people, not only from within the band who worked so hard to organise the weekend and make it the success it was.

Now with thoughts firmly back in Essex, here are details of two concerts in the near future being given by the Essex Police Band:

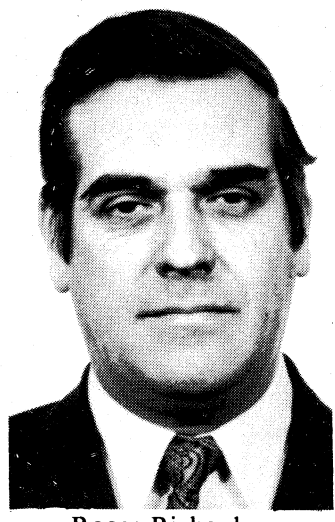
On Wednesday, 22nd April we are playing at the Princes Theatre Clacton, and at William Edwards School, Grays, on Saturday, 2nd May, where we will be joined by the Suffolk Police Choir.

MOVES AT THE TOP

A NEW head of CID and the promotion of four new Superintendents means numerous moves being triggered off throughout the county.

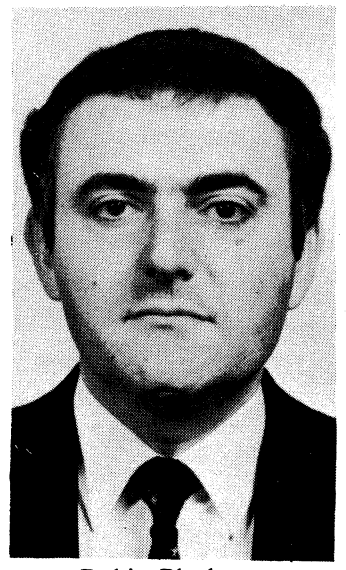


John Eady



Roger Richardson

After Det Ch Supt Peter Crust announced his retirement to take up a senior security post in industry, Supt Roger Richardson was promoted to fill the vacancy. Mr Richardson recently returned to Essex after a long secondment to the Regional Crime Squad. The present head of Basildon CID, Ch Insp Mike Ainsley, gets a move up the promotion ladder to replace Mr Richardson.



Robin Blackmore

The intended retirement of Supt Alan Cartwright also creates a vacancy in May, and it has been announced that Ch Insp Jim Smith of Westcliff will be the next Superintendent of the Basildon Sub Division.



Mike Ainsley

The Personnel Department will see a change as Ch Insp John Eady gets his crown to move to take over a vacancy as Superintendent on Traffic Division whilst Ch Insp Robin Blackmore moves out of Headquarters to become Superintendent in charge of the Chelmsford Sub Division.



Jim Smith

These promotions have meant many more moves in the lower ranks but space dictates that my more will make this publication read like Force Orders.

CHRISTIAN POLICE ASSOCIATION
 (Founded by Catherine Gurney, OBE, in 1883)

98th ANNUAL MEETINGS
Friday, April 24 — in historical Guildhall, City of London. Praise and Testimony Meetings at 11am, 3pm and 6.30pm. (Tea available at 4.30pm).
Saturday, April 25 — 7pm Evangelistic Rally at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton Road, SW7.
 Serving Police Officers take part in all meetings.
A welcome to all.

'VAGABOND KING' A SUCCESS FOR HQ MUSICAL SOCIETY



15th Century France comes to Headquarters with beggars and harlots thronging the streets, but they seem to have plenty to sing about.

THIS YEAR'S offering by the members of the Headquarters Musical Society was an ambitious presentation of a piece entitled 'The Vagabond King.' The show contained all that could be required in the form of entertainment offered by an enthusiastic group of amateur artists keen only to please the audience.

Colour, music, acting and singing were all set in 15th Century France. Based on fact, it followed a day in the life of one of the best known Poets of France as his King seeks to manipulate him to save Paris and the Throne.

In front of excellent scenery, completed as usual

by the talented Tony Hillam the combination of sword fights, deaths, hangings and harlots, ladies and knights all served to provide a colourful and memorable evening's entertainment.

As usual, the society's principal actors carried the show well, admirably helped by the supporting cast. Derek Lee, who played the part of the French Romantic Poet Francois Villon worked well with Roy Clark who played the part of King Louis XI. Clara Smith worked doubly hard and must have been pleased with the final outcome in her dual role of producer and actress taking the part of Kathrine De Vaucelle.

Other supporting principal parts were played by the evergreen Johnny Johnson and John Hart (a new name to watch for the future). Eileen Kligerman, Steve Clarke, Dianne Hillam and Linda Cass all turned in fine performances. Roger Richardson played the part of the Kings companion so well that he exactly set off the performance from Derek Lee and Roy Clarke.

The end result of this years show means that the society will really have to work hard to maintain the standard set, but with up and coming stars like John Hart and Bob Drake to assist, every member will look forward to repeating their success.

REVIEW OF MEDICAL SCHEME REVEALS HEAVY DEFICIT — 'Subs must be doubled', say committee

THE Force Private Medical Scheme Representative Committee has been reviewing the Private Patients Plan. Since May, 1980, total claims met by the PPP have been greater than the inaugural subscription rates allowed for. As a result, Private Patients Plan will make an estimated loss of £30,000 on the first year's operation, this loss being allocated fairly equally across the three component subscribing Groups. After looking carefully at current trends in private medical insurance, and in particular what BUPA has to offer, the Committee decided to stay with Private Patients Plan and accept their new 1981/82 rates, which are a doubling of subscriptions across the board. This is expected to allow next year's income and claims to be maintained in balance.

Although the number and total cost of claims

have brought about higher subscription rates, at the same time the financial demands made on the Scheme show that it must be catering for undoubted medical needs of officers, civilians, pensioners and their dependents.

Private Patients Plan has agreed to withhold application of the new rates until June 1, 1981 instead of May 1, when the new subscription year normally starts.

Additionally on June 1, 1981, civilian staff will come into line with police officers and pensioners in that existing civilian subscribers (Group 11240) will have all exclusions removed from their membership. Also new applications from existing civilian employees, which are received no later than Friday, May 15, 1981, will not require declaration of medical histories in respect

to subscribers and their dependents. In these cases membership will start no earlier than June 1, 1981. Thereafter newly recruited civilian employees must enrol within three months if they are to enjoy the concession of not declaring medical histories.

Individual notifications of amended rates will be circulated to existing subscribers as soon as possible. Apart from pensioners, who will be advised individually, no further action by police and civilian subscribers will be necessary, since their original Salary Deduction Authority allowed for rates to be amended automatically. Despite the increase in rates, the Committee, after considering other medical insurance schemes and other police groups, still recommend the Private Patients Plan as good value for money.

YOUR NEW SUBSCRIPTION RATES

With effect from June 1, 1981, the new monthly subscriptions will be:

	Group 11238 (Serving Police Officers)	Group 11239 Pensioners (Police/Civilian)	Group 11240 Civilian Staff
Individual subscriber	£4.50	£5.80	£5.50
Widow in receipt of police pension	—	£5.80	£5.50
Subscriber and spouse	£9.00	£11.40	£12.70
Subscriber, spouse and dependent children	£11.16	£14.10	£16.30
One parent family	£6.66	£8.50	£9.10

Until now, subscribers reaching the age of 65 years have had to leave the Scheme. From May 1, 1981 pensioners (Group 11239) and civilians (Group 11240) who are existing subscribers may elect to continue at the rates shown below:

Individual subscribers — £11.70 per month

Subscriber and spouse — £23.40 per month.

Subscriber, spouse and dependent children — £26.10 per month.

One parent family — £14.40 per month.

A heartening response for Bob's appeal



REMEMBER the report a few issues ago about the efforts of Fyfield village bobby Bob Higgs to raise funds for the National Heart Hospital in Westminster?

At a social evening in the village recently, a cheque for £2,634 was presented to Sister Hibbert of the Children's Ward, with a further £119 being donated towards children's play equipment at the Hospital.

The cheque was handed over by little Karen Higgs who had undergone successful heart surgery and the impressive total was raised through fund raising events and donations.

4th British Police

ARCHERY TOURNAMENT

At H.A.C. ground City Road
London E.C.1.

SUNDAY, 19th JULY 1981, 10am

Inter-services challenge match

& Invitation team event

Closing date for entries 6.6.81

City of London police athletic & social club

— the Welfare Officer writes



The award winners pictured after the presentation with the CID officers in the case Dc John Keyling and Ds David Bright.

A PRESENTATION function was held recently at Rayleigh Police Station at which a W/Pc received a Chief Constable's Commendation with certificate and two members of the public received awards for their public spirited actions.

Presiding over the ceremony was the High Sheriff of Essex Mr J. E. Tabor OBE accompanied by the Deputy Chairman of the Police Authority, Alderman Clarke and the Chairmen of Rochford and Castlepoint District Councils.

Meritious

In presenting the chief Constable's certificate of commendation to W/PC Patricia Foster the High Sheriff made it plain that he considered it an honour to have been asked to present the certificate for such a meritorious act. The brief circumstances being that some time ago, Pat, who was then stationed at Rayleigh was on night duty in the station when she heard a commotion going on in the front foyer. On going through to see what it was all about, she was confronted by a man who was armed with a pistol and a hammer and behaving in a somewhat deranged manner. He was attempting to smash the place up and when approached by Pat he pointed the pistol in threatening style. He was eventually disarmed and duly dealt with.

Pat, who recently made news of a different kind by becoming the first lady Traffic motor-cyclist in the Force, is now stationed at Laindon. She is also the first officer to receive the new style Chief Constable's commendation with certificate and was accompanied at the ceremony by her proud mother.

Bank frauds

The other presentations made were cheques for £100 each to bank worker Mrs Johanna Cochrane and one of her customers Mr Andrew Conway. Mrs Cochrane was working at the bank when a customer presented a cheque for cashing with a cheque card which made her suspicious. She introduced a few delaying tactics in order to try and allay her suspicions but the customer panicked and left the bank without the transaction being completed. Mr Conway, waiting patiently in the queue, immediately realised that all was not well and followed the man and eventually apprehended him. The Police in the form of D/Sgt David Bright and D/Cons John Kreyling took up the case which resulted in the accused man plus eight others being convicted at court for a series of frauds amounting to a proven £134,000.

AN UNSETTLING time is in prospect for those men who are approaching 60 and who plan to retire then. There are two main reasons for this — the reduction next year of earnings related supplement and its abolition from January 1982, and the impending cutback of unemployment benefit for those men with "larger" occupational pension schemes.

First, Earnings Related Supplement. This will affect **everyone** who claims sickness, unemployment or maternity benefit, not just the over 60s. From January 1981, the amount of this benefit was cut.

This will mean that, for example, this year's maximum amount (based on 1979-80 earnings of £6,750 or more) will be £14 a week as opposed to last year's top amount of £17.67 (based on 1978-79 earnings of £6,000). And from January 1982, it stops altogether.

Earnings-related supplement is paid for six months with one of the qualifying benefits, and it is based on the date the claim is first made. This, in turn, means that anyone who claimed before the end of last year, can keep last year's higher rate until his or her entitlement runs out six months later.

The amount will not drop with the change in January. But anyone who claims in January this year will get the lower rate.

Similarly, if someone claims at the end of this year, he will get ERS for six months afterwards. But someone who claims in January 1982, will get no ERS at all.

The supplement is ending as part of the Government's efforts to cut public spending. The reason given for picking on this particular benefit is that it is worth much less now than when it was first introduced. Also the huge growth in redundancy payments which cushion the blow of unemployment have made it unnecessary. The second headache **only concerns men between 60 and 65**. The Government has decided that unemployment benefit is not really meant for anyone who has "retired" with a "firm's" pension, and so from April 1981, is to cut this benefit paid to people with occupational pensions over a certain level.

Not only is the extra cash welcome, but the national insurance contribution credits which are given for each week of registered unemployment count towards eventual retirement pension and can make all the difference between a full pension and a reduced one.

The magic figure decided on is £35. With a company pension of up to £35,

unemployment benefit is safe. Over this, and unemployment benefit will be reduced. It will work like this. Where an occupational pension of more than £35 is being paid, unemployment benefit will be cut by £1 for each £1 in pension over the limit.

With unemployment benefit next April at £20.65 a week (single rate) and £33.40 for a married man, this will mean that company pensions of about £56 and £69 will be enough to stop benefit completely. If earnings related supplement is also being paid, the weekly pension being paid to a married man would need to be £83 a week before the benefit was totally lost.

Unlike the ERS changes, the operation of this new rule will affect everyone with a pension over the limit from next April. One method which might reduce the impact of the new rule is commutation — taking a lump sum in lieu of pension. This, of course, is quite legal — commutation is allowed to give a lump sum of up to one and a half times annual salary.

But even this might not work. The Social Security (No 2) Act 1980, which brought in this measure, gives powers which allow the commuted part of the pension to be taken into account.

The Department of Health, and Social Security say that they have not yet made any provision to take commuted amounts of pension into account. They were going to wait and see how the new arrangements worked before deciding what to do. If it became apparent that there was abuse of this "loophole" then they would act.

The Law Shop

WANTED: All empty matchboxes, especially those with pictures of Public Houses on them, or boxes advertising types of beer, wine or spirits. — Ps Piper, Colchester.

FOR SALE — Tilbury — 3-bed, end-of-terrace house. Gas central heating with independent gas fire in lounge, dining room, downstairs cloakroom, fully-glazed sun porch, garage space. Vacant from April — £19,995. Telephone Tilbury 4880. Mr and Mrs White.

WANTED — Exercise cycle for wife — M/S sufferer. Anyone able to help, please contact ex Pc Ron Douglas at Brentwood 219323 or Laindon Traffic Workshop, Basildon 42333.

FOR SALE — Golf Clubs — new — made in USA, half set £55. Contact Supt Naylor at Harlow.



WPC Pat Foster is handed her Commendation Certificate by the High Sheriff.

Raleigh Police Shooting Club

present a

Bavarian Evening

At the 'J' Ale House

Friday, 24th April, 1981

8 pm to Midnight

Tickets £6 inc. from

Sgt. Soward/Cons Seago at Rayleigh

Attractions Include Oompah Band

Dancing Raffle German Food

LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT—LAW SPORT

Essex girls triumph at Wimbledon

IT WAS just like the good old days at Wimbledon on March 5 when the Essex womens team swept the opposition aside to win the Regional Cross Country championship.

Moira Owers of Chelmsford rounded off an excellent first season with the Force team, adding the individual title to the league championship she clinched at Danbury last month. On a course with plenty of mud, Moira was never troubled in the heavy going and to add to the Essex triumph her nearest rival was Siobhan Mullender of Ongar.

Wimbledon is not Siobhan's favourite course, the distance often being rather short, favouring sprinters, but conditions must have been to her liking this year. With the first two home Essex looked safe but they had to wait for their third scorer until 11th.

And it was Chelmsford's Sally Brown who won the title for Essex as she put in a determined finish to overtake two rivals. That was two points off the Essex score — and the winning margin when the totals were worked out was just one point.

BEST OF SEASON

The Essex mens team faced the best field of the season and Chris Turner, Colchester, who had won the league race at Danbury in February, found himself in a different sort of race with the track men getting the advantage on the flat terrain.

Daughters of Surrey swept from fourth to the lead in the last mile to win from Newman of Thames Valley, but Turner hung on to get into the medals with a bronze. The rest of the team were too far back to make an impact on the team race and Essex did not make the first three. Andy Down, 26, Len Perrott, 30, Steve Pearmain, 39 and Barry Daymond, 43, completed the scoring.

TUSCON, ARIZONA

Walker, Peter Ryan, is testing the advantages to be gained from heatwave training, having flown to Tuscon, Arizona, with a colleague to train in the 90 degree heat which can be met there. It could help, but only if the weather here has warmed up a bit by the time he comes home. Otherwise all he could get is a cold.

Main event of the past month was Essex 10 miles championship where various problems reduced the Force entry to two. Neither Denis Sheppard, 10th in 84.48 nor John

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD IN SOUTHEND

SOUTHEND Division were hosts recently to the No. 5 Region PAA Indoor Games Championships. The competition consisted of preliminary and final round contests in the four sports of Darts, Snooker, Billiards and Table Tennis. Of the nine teams entered from various Police Forces throughout the Region, Essex were placed in overall third place behind Herts in second place and Kent who won the event with the best overall team entry thus taking the Portsmouth Shield.

Helping Essex to third place were Sgt Lance Williams of Colchester who was beaten in the final of the snooker by two frames to one, the winner being Dave Crouch of Sussex. Peter Rouse of Hadleigh won the Veterans table-tennis event. Gavin Price of Clacton was a beaten finalist in the table-tennis singles and was unfortunate again to be beaten in the table-tennis doubles final when partnering John Graham also of Clacton.

Maureen Chaplin of Rayleigh and Anita Golding of Colchester played well to get into the finals of the Ladies table-tennis doubles but were unfortunately beaten. Harry Fordham of Basildon was the beaten finalist in the Darts Singles.

Hedgethorpe, 14th in 88.20, were on sparkling form on the stiff Chigwell course.

During the week before the same pair had contested an out-of-season track event on the brand new all weather track at Harlow. There, both clocked good times for a winter evening. Sheppard second in 13.40 and Hedgethorpe sixth in 14.41 for 3,000 metres.

The walking squad's busiest time of the year is now starting, leading up to Barking—Southend in May.

MAY 28

And the time is also coming when the track team begin to stir, stretch their muscles and organise for the coming season. The Force championships will be held at Chelmsford on May 28, but by then the league campaign will already be well under way, the first match being at Bexley, Kent on May 2.

Bert Wallace at Wickford is eager to hear from any new members. The Southern Athletics League is very strong. Police gained promotion last summer from Division six to five. Bert Wallace is intent on doing the same again this year but it will mean everyone turning up for every match.



Peter Rouse, winner of the veterans title, is flanked by the other Essex table tennis finalists, Maureen Chaplin, Anita Golding, John Graham and Gavin Price.



Lance Williams receives his runners-up plaque from Supt Harper of Southend.

HOCKEY GIRLS NEED SUPPORT



Don't just stand there! Another goal for Suffolk in the friendly match at HQ.

THE LADIES Hockey team has been through a season of mixed fortunes, with several games having been played but suffering from a lack of support.

The County side has been knocked out of the PAA competition but are still in the Cambridgeshire Shield and are hopeful of a longer and more successful run.

It wasn't until this month that the Essex team were able to play their first fixture of the New Year which was a friendly match against Suffolk Police. The game was played on an

under-sized pitch at Headquarters, the only other alternative being Chelmer Park which has been unplayable for several months.

The Essex side played a muddled first-half in the match which resulted in conceding six goals. The second-half did not retrieve the score line to favour Essex but they certainly improved with some much more forceful play.

The next match is on the 25th March also against Suffolk and is a Cambridgeshire Shield fixture.

Soccer Team Leave it Late

A HAT TRICK by Paul Gamman assured Essex of a magnificent victory against Hampshire at Imber Court recently.

Goals from Taylor, Street and Scott gave the County their top score of the season in the No. 5 Region PAA Final, beating Hampshire by a 6-3 margin.

Dave Bloxham defended the Essex goal with a sound performance as the game continually switched from end to end in this fast moving clash. As far as Essex were concerned, all seemed lost when a succession of defensive errors gave Mr Duke's team a 2-3 lead with only ten minutes to go. All credit then to the County side when, with renewed determination, they made a terrific assault upon the opponents goal which gave them four goals to take the match in fine style.

As far as the teams position in the Olympian League goes, it is pleasing to record a series of consistent performances since Christmas which have given them a comfortable placing in the top quarter of the league. There would seem to be little chance of taking the title though with Rayleigh displaying unbeatable form.

On Tuesday 24th March Essex, holders of the South Midlands Cup, played Cambridge in the semi-final of that competition at Huntingdon and won 4-0. The goal scorers were Phil O'Connell 2, Paul Gamman 1 and John Scott 1. The final will be against a Met. Division on a date to be arranged at a neutral ground.

Riflemen of Essex shoot to the top

THE Essex Police Rifle Team at the moment are doing very well in the PAA National League Division Five. At just over the halfway stage with six out of 10 matches shot, they are heading the table with 10 points from five wins and one match lost. The team consists of Rob Wolton and Malcolm Byde from Colchester, Mick Brangham from Staff and Supt Les Brewer and Ron Missenden from Clacton.

In the PAA Short Range Individual Competition for 1980/81 all the above five took part in the first qualifying round but only Mick Brangham and Malcolm Byde managed to reach the qualifying score of 292. The next round was the Regional and Malcolm Byde shot very well with a score of 295 out of 300, 2 x 98 and a 99, to reach third place in the South East region. The two shooters above him from Kent and Hants scored 297 each. Mick Brangham came seventh with 290.

Colchester win

The Croker Cup Competition was shot on Sunday, January 25, 1981, at Southend Police Station, and proved to be an excellent arrangement. In the first round Basildon drew Southend and beat them quite easily, 509 to 235. Five men shot in each team and the best three scores were counted. It was very unfortunate for the two strongest teams, Clacton and Colchester, being drawn against each other in the first round. They have shot against each other so many times in the past. Colchester won with a score of 576 to 552. In the semi-final Chelmsford shot 406 but were well beaten by Colchester. The final round was Colchester versus Basildon, with Colchester scoring 583 against 499.

Record

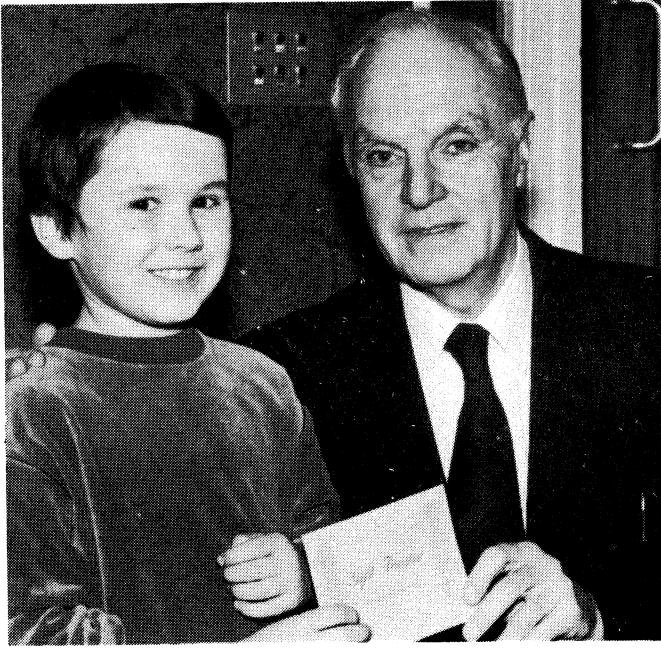
This made a total of 13 years in succession that Colchester have won the Samuel Courtauld Cup for shooting. The cup was first presented in 1950 and the previous record for winning it in succession was when Chelmsford won it six times in a row in the early 1950's.

The draw for shooting next year will be held at the venue, which should be a lot better for all concerned.

STEVEN HAS IT FIGURED OUT

WHEN you're only seven-years-old you can't be expected to know about crime figures, but young Steven Johnston got really close when he entered a competition to guess the number of pedal cycles stolen in Chelmsford last year.

Steven of Firecrest Road, Chelmsford, was only two away from a correct answer of 2,953, and was the winner of a competition run during a Crime Prevention Exhibition in the shopping centre. His prize of a £10 voucher was presented by Ch Supt John Challis, who also made awards to the runners up.



RECENT visitors to Headquarters Driving School as guest of the Automobile Association was Mr Michael Hunt, weather forecaster for Anglia TV.

Mr Hunt was taken on a

demonstration-drive by Sgt Ron Rees of the driving school staff together with other Senior officials of the AA. They were then given a demonstration of skid pan techniques following which Mr Hunt himself

attempted to emulate the skills of the instructor. The group are pictured together with Chief Superintendent Reg Searle, Traffic Division Commander and Chief Inspector Terry Roberts, officer in charge of the driving school.

ACC Praises Cadet Enthusiasm



Moira Owers gains reward for her efforts from Mr Comrie.

IN A presentation ceremony held recently at the Force Training School the Assistant Chief Constable Mr M. Comrie presented Cadet Moira Owers with two plaques for her fine efforts in the PAA cross country League. Out of five races, the best four of which counted, Moira won two and gained fourth place in two other races. During the ceremony Mr Comrie paid tribute to all the Essex Cadets for their enthusiastic contribution to the Force despite their low numbers.

Federation Notes



JIM is on Annual Leave at the present time so it falls to myself, Dave Ross, as his assistant secretary, to just update you briefly on current events.

TAXATION ON CAR ALLOWANCE

Ted Davidson has now received a reply from HM Inspector of Taxes at Gateshead which politely states that no agreement can be given which varies the nationally agreed figures. However, the last paragraph points out that any individual can claim to be assessed on the difference between the allowances he receives in a year and the deductions allowable under the Taxes Acts in respect of his actual expenditure, rather than be assessed on the fixed profit. This would involve keeping accurate records of all mileage, both business and private and accurate details of running costs. There is a word of warning, that it is normally found more favourable to accept the nationally agreed figures.

A copy of the letter itself has been distributed to each divisional representative for display.

At this moment Ted is pondering what to do next.

PRIVATE PATIENTS PLAN

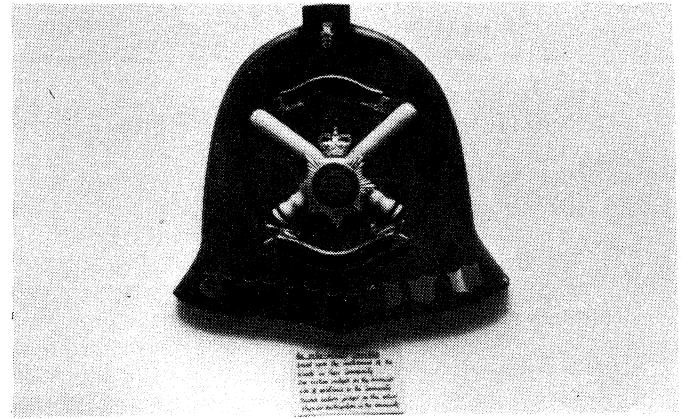
As will be seen in another article in this paper the rates have had to be increased considerably. Personally speaking, I am still going to pay. It is as they say "cheap at half the price".

PLAINCLOTHES ALLOWANCE

HM of Taxes is now adjusting officers' personal coding in respect of the above allowance. There is not a lot that can be done at this time but the matter will be brought to the notice of the Joint Central Committee.

INFORMATION has come to hand that the Rowhedge Regatta is being held on Saturday, 20th June, when high tide is at 3 pm. An invitation has been extended to members of the Essex Police to take part in the sailing and canoe races as they have done in previous years. Prespective participants should contact the Secretary, Mrs Privett, on Colchester 965908.

CSB SAY THANKS



WHEN HADLEIGH Community Services Branch held their second Hospitality Night at Southend Police Station recently, guests included teachers, social workers, probation officers and others who had assisted the Branch in their activities throughout the past year.

During the evening the work of the C. S. B. following a case of shoplifting was depicted by the showing of a video

Seaxes

HAS recession now hit us? For the last two years we have had our Dinner/Dance to Belgium over-subscribed. This year, although a better than ever trip was organised, we only had thirty applicants and the trip has had to be cancelled. Last year we had 200 and had to turn people away. Most members stated that they had not seen it advertised but it was well advertised in 'The Law' and in previous columns of this publication. It is to your advantage to read this column and in fact the paper in order to make sure that you do not miss out on the benefits the club obtains for you.

In place of the sea trip, we have booked a coach trip to London to see the Paul Daniels Magic Show, reputed to be one of the best of the London shows at the moment. Date, Friday 24th April, Dress Circle seats, £7.00 inclusive of coach. Only a few seats left so book NOW.

As far as rallying goes, only one twelve car rally has been held which was won by Brian Jaggs and Ray Gravestock. Next rally, Friday 3rd April 1981 from Witham Police Station organised by John and Linda Vallance (Data Processing).

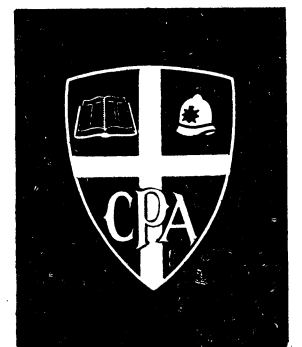
The Annual General Meeting of the club will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29th April 1981 at Police H. Q. canteen. Please make every effort to attend as this could be a most important meeting for the club.

Finally, don't forget to book your holiday touring kits for the summer trips ahead. They are still only 50p per week with still more items in the kit. Forms obtainable from the shop or notice board.

recording made by the Essex County Council Visual Aids Unit. Actors in the film were pupils from Fitzwhymark School, Rayleigh, and their parts were judged as being part of their C.S.E. examinations in Drama.

Also on display was the shield shown above which has been made by Ps Bob Mann of the Hadleigh Branch to be awarded to the school which is judged to have achieved most for the community, either in raising money for charity, or general community work such as assisting old people.

A panel of independent teachers, together with Insp Wright will judge the award which is to be made for the first time this year.



AN interesting development in recent months has been the linking up of members living on the western side of Essex with members of the Herts. Branch.

The next such 'link-up' is on Tuesday 7 April at 7.30pm when the Herts. Branch invites Essex members and friends to meet with them at 27 Nurseway Road, Bishop's Stortford, the home of Adrian Went (stationed at Harlow). Both Adrian and his wife Jackie hope to welcome a good number from Essex, together with our friends from over the border.

The 98th London Annual Meetings will be held from April 23 to 25 — for details, see announcement elsewhere in this issue. These are always occasions of great challenge and encouragement as police officers meet together from all parts of the British Isles for fellowship.

The Essex Branch plans to engage in Team Witness at Shalford Green Congregational Church near Braintree, at 6.30pm on Sunday 26 April, when all will be welcome.

The handbag is mightier than the pen

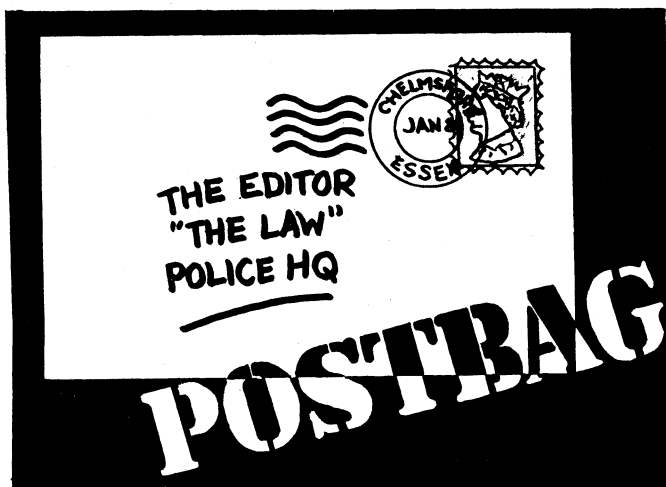
BE WARNED young man, learn from the mistakes of others and don't say or write anything which might be construed as being detrimental to the fairer sex! Well it should be commonsense if you look around you — your Sovereign, your Prime Minister, your gov'nor (the wife) are all examples of how, during the 20th century, the female has quietly got herself into a position of control. The male readers were almost non-existent in their support of the Editorial viewpoint — wise fellows — now look what has happened, one foot out of line and the Editor is replaced. Still, I suppose it could have been worse, the next sinner will probably be sent to The Tower of London (have you noticed that the Tower is being renovated — it's not just for the benefit of the American tourists!).

Doubled up with paying

THERE will be plenty of comments and discussion on the announcement of increased rates for the Medical Scheme as detailed in this issue. For an Insurance Company to so seriously underestimate claims in the first year of operation that they incur a loss of £30,000 is incredible.

That these figures are correct is not in dispute — but what is the cause? Could it be that many members have been 'saving up' their medical problems and suddenly saw a way in which they could get relief without waiting for NHS treatment. If this is the case, when the 'bulge' of claims is dispersed can we expect a reduction in premiums to compensate for higher profits? Alternatively, were the scale of premiums set unnaturally low in order to present a more attractive package in the first instance in comparison with alternative schemes, well knowing that a foot in the door is halfway to a sale.

Whatever the cause of this present situation, our representatives must be alert to the necessity of watching very carefully the estimates of negotiators who have already proved that they can be so hopelessly wrong.



Sir,

Only the foolhardy refuse to take cover when the ladies begin throwing things, and this old gentleman is a coward at heart. Perhaps he should make it clear that he's always loved the ladies, in uniform or not... true, he has little success nowadays, but hope springs eternal. The trouble is, they soon grow tired of us. Ask those tempestuous petticoats who set about you one question: What is the average length of service given by the ladies? The answer must take account of all those elegant veterans at the Yard and elsewhere who've grown grey (or golden) while with us. Answer: Two years, ten months.

Ralph Jones

Dear Sir,

I was interested to read WPC Kennard's hysterical outburst in the February issue of "The Law".

In particular, I was interested in the part of her letter which read, "You men begged us to do the job that you did". I wonder if WPC Kennard could let us know when this historic event took place because I have a feeling that I was weekend off.

R. A. Naden,
Colchester

Dear Sir,

I write to put the record straight in respect of your front page headline 'CSB 1 Strangers O' in the February issue.

Young David Selby's actions were indeed commendable and followed

guidance given in the 'Never Go With Strangers' film which had been shown to his class as part of the Schools Liaison programme. In accordance with Force policy for primary schools, the film was shown by the local neighbourhood beat officer and not the C.S.B.

I would like to use this opportunity to stress the importance of involving the local officer with the schools on his beat. The main object is for the younger children to get to know and trust the local officer as someone they can refer to in times of difficulty. The CSB only monitor the Primary Schools programme but are indeed responsible for the whole input to the Secondary Schools because the wider scope of the subjects requires more time than would normally be available to the local officer. However the local officer is kept apprised of the CSB involvement with the schools on his beat and often assists.

Therefore giving credit where credit is due it would have been more appropriate for David's headline to have read 'Essex Police 1 Strangers O'.

Yours faithfully,
G. A. Harris
Superintendent.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY AWARDS FOR RIVER RESCUE



The Chairman of Tendring District Council, Fred Good, with the two Mistley officers Pc Kevin Jacobs and Ps Denis Murfitt.

Two police officers stationed at Mistley have been presented with Royal Humane Society Awards after an incident last summer when a disabled boy was rescued from the River Stour.

Sgt Denis Murfitt and Pc. Kevin Jacobs were called upon for assistance

when a family boat trip nearly ended in disaster. Stranded on a mud bank and threatened by an incoming tide, some members of the family made it to the bank, but an 11-year-old handicapped boy, his father, and a friend were unable to move across the deep mud banks

because the boy had to be carried.

Using ropes, the two police officers were able to rescue the remainder of the party, and their awards were presented by the Chairman of the Tendring District Council at Clacton Town Hall.

Dear Sir,

May I have the assistance of your columns to draw the attention of Police Pensioners to the following. Police Pensions in Essex are paid monthly in advance and when a pensioner dies the County Treasurer is bound by his duties to write to the widow or next of kin to ask for a refund of that part of the pensioner's pension applicable to the period of that part of the month remaining after his death. I have received complaints from widows affected by this procedure and some have felt that the letter from the County Treasurer asking for the refund is sent out within a few days of the death and with undue haste and without consideration for the feelings of the widow at such a time.

It will be appreciated that the County Treasurer and his staff, who have always shown the greatest consideration to Police Pensioners, in my experience, are placed in an unenviable dilemma in such cases. If they write asking

for the refund soon after the death they can be thought to be insensitive. On the other hand, if they were to leave the request for the refund for some time the money may have been used for other purposes and greater hardship caused.

The fact that our pensions are paid monthly in advance is known to all pensioners at the time of retirement but with the passing of time this fact seems to be often forgotten. Occasionally one comes in contact with a widow who is shocked and distressed when she learns this information for the first time on receipt of a letter from the County Treasurer asking for a refund of part of the husband's last monthly pension payment which is due to the Police Authority.

If these facts are more widely known and appreciated some annoyance and distress may be avoided in the future.

Yours Sincerely,
Arthur Simpson
N.A.R.P.O.

Dear Sir,

I am aware that many officers in the Essex Police do invaluable work with the Disabled, Scouts and Schools, just to mention but a few. Whilst many other forces throughout England make it known publically what they get involved in, Essex Police who do more than their fair share, keep quiet.

The Managing Editor of the Police Review has asked me to put an article together for publication.

It is now the time to stand up and be counted. As many officers are too modest to mention themselves, perhaps their friends and colleagues would forward the required information to me. Let's show these other forces that we are better than most, once again.

Your Faithfully,
Christopher Caten.

Police Station,
North Weald,
Harlow.

The Law

H.Q. phone extensions
374 and 375

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APRIL 27